



Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
of Karnataka



Department of Health and Family Welfare



Shri. D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister
of Karnataka



Inauguration Nation's **1st** GOVERNMENT OWNED STATE-OF-THE ART Integrated Command & Control Centre

108 AROGYA KAVACHA & 104 AROGYA SAHAYA VANI

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE INITIATIVE

GOVERNMENT-OWNED INTEGRATED EMERGENCY HEALTH NETWORK

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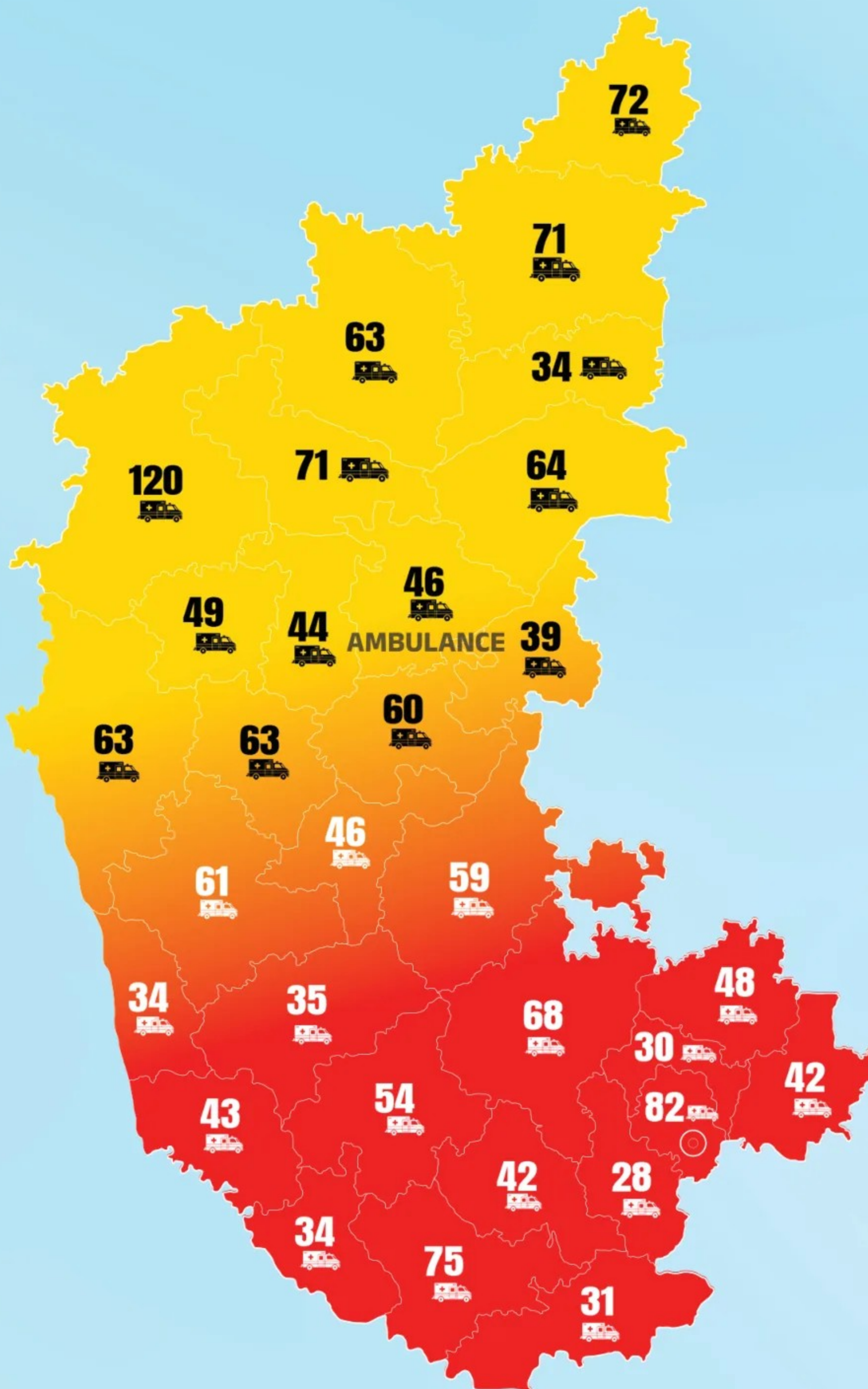
- GIS mapping of Government & Private hospitals
- Identification of nearest suitable treatment facility

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- Reliable & uninterrupted connectivity through Karnataka State Wide Area Network (KSWAN) & dual SIP trunk lines

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- Automated vehicle location & tracking enabled ambulances
- Nearest ambulance dispatch with Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA) calculation
- SMS alerts with ambulance tracking details
- Patient vitals captured through digital Patient Care Record using Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) devices



*District-Wise Ambulance's across Karnataka

QUICK RESPONSE DURING EMERGENCIES

- Emergency calls answered within 5 seconds
- Automatic Location Based System (LBS) for accurate caller location detection
- Faster ambulance dispatch to save critical time

SMART MEDICAL SUPPORT

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- Real-time consultation through MDT devices
- Prior alerts to receiving hospitals for preparedness

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- Pregnant women
- Accident victims
- Health disaster emergencies
- Patients requiring urgent treatment

LARGE & INTEGRATED EMERGENCY FLEET

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- Integrated with 104 Health Helpline,
- 112 ERSS, 181 Women & Child Helpline and more
- Emergency medical assistance enabled through the 112 India Mobile App



TECHNOLOGY ENABLED RESPONSE & IMMEDIATE ACTION IN HEALTH EMERGENCIES FOR THE CITIZENS OF KARNATAKA

Inauguration By :
Shri Siddaramaiah

Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Government of Karnataka.

Guest of Honour :
Shri D. K. Shivakumar

Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister,
Government of Karnataka.

Presided By :
Shri S. Suresh Kumar

Hon'ble MLA, Rajajinagar,
Assembly Constituency.

Date:
25 May 2026

Time:
11:00 AM

Venue:
INTEGRATED COMMAND & CONTROL CENTER
Basaveshwara nagar, Bengaluru-560079

Chief Guest :
Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare,
Government of Karnataka.

Guest of Honour :
Shri Priya Krishna

Hon'ble MLA, Govindarajanagar,
Assembly Constituency.



Honourable Chief Minister
Shri Siddaramaiah
& Health Minister
Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao
participated in the
department's programme

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Sachin's emotional note praises Arjun's patience after LSG Debut



10 drown while collecting mussels in Bhatkal river

The incident occurred when 14 from Shirali entered the river to collect mussels, a seasonal activity practised by locals along coastal regions

BHATKAL

Ten members of a family, including seven women, drowned while two others were reported missing after a group attempting to collect freshwater mussels was swept away by strong currents in the Tatte Hakkalu river in the delta area near Bhatkal of Uttara Kannada district, police sources said on Sunday.

According to police sources, around 14 people from Shirali village had entered the river to collect mussels, a seasonal activity practised by local communities along riverbanks and coastal regions.

"During the process, they allegedly moved deeper into the river without accurately assessing the water level. When the water flow suddenly in-



creased, one or two persons were swept away." Several others then jumped into the river in an attempt to rescue those struggling in the water, leading to more people being caught in the strong current.

Police sources said eight bodies had been recovered so far, while two others remained missing.

Among the deceased, nine people have been identified as Laxmi Mahadev

Naik Malumane (38), Malati Jattappa Naik (38), Laxmi Annappa Naik (44), Mastamma Manjunath Naik (43), Umesh Manjunath Naik (42), Shivaram Naik (39), Nagarathna Paramwshwar Naik (40), Jyoti Nagappa Naik (37), and Manjamma Naik (50). All deceased were natives of Saradahole in Shirali of Bhatkal taluk.

Mahadev Naik (52), who reportedly drowned, is still missing. Those rescued and hospitalised include Mahadevi Manjunath Naik (60), Latha Jagadish Naik (38) and Nagaratna Eeshwara Naik (40).

Rescue personnel, police

teams and local residents were continuing intensive search operations in the river. The sources said the incident occurred after the river current intensified amid rains in the region, sweeping away multiple persons who had ventured into deeper sections of the waterbody while collecting mussels. "Collecting freshwater mussels is a livelihood activity for some sections of people, similar to fishing. Many of those involved were experienced in the work and had reportedly undertaken such activities earlier as well,"

CM, DyCM, LoP condole deaths

Mourning the tragedy, Siddaramaiah in a X post said he was deeply distressed to learn about the "extremely tragic and painful incident." DyCM DK Shivakumar and LoP R Ashoka also condoled the deaths.

PM, CM announce solatia

■ PM Narendra Modi also announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh from the PMNRF for the kin of the deceased.

■ Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced a solatium of ₹5 lakh to the next to the kin of each victim.



Stepping into the 4th year

Gruha Jyothi

Up to 200 units of free electricity per house

Over the past three years, Guarantee Sarkara, through the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, has provided up to 200 units of free electricity, reducing household expenses and enabling families to use their savings towards better livelihoods and a more secure future

₹26,115 Crore

Support has been provided under the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, easing the financial burden on households across Karnataka

1.64 Crore Families

are benefiting under the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, helping build more secure and financially stable lives

Siddaramaiah

Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

D K Shivakumar

D K Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

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CMofKarnataka @ https://dlipr.karnataka.gov.in/

"To protect and respect our vibrant culture and tradition," is a Fundamental Duty of every citizen. This is affirmed by our Constitution.

karnataka information



Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah and Hon'ble Minister Shri K.J. George addressing the Press



Scan the QR Code to Witness the Impact of Gruha Jyothi

Rubio signals imminent US-India deal

NEW DELHI

India and the US on Sunday sought to project continuity and momentum in their strategic partnership despite unease over trade talks and tightening American visa policies, with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar raising concerns over difficulties faced by legitimate Indian travellers seeking entry into the US.

Addressing a joint press meet in Delhi alongside US Secretary of State Marco Rubio after delegation-level

talks, Jaishankar said the two sides had made progress in trade negotiations and remained committed to deepening cooperation in energy, technology, mobility and regional security. "We spoke about the value of concluding at an early date the final text of the interim agreement regarding reciprocal and mutually beneficial trade," Jaishankar said.

Rubio confirmed that both sides were "on the verge" of reaching a durable agreement. "The US-India relationship has not lost any momentum," he said, pushing back against suggestions that trade tensions



under Trump had strained ties. An Indian delegation had recently travelled to the US for discussions, he said, while a US team was expected in India soon for negotiations.

7 MLCs to retire on June 30; poll notification likely next week

Bengaluru: Seven members elected to the Legislative Council from the state assembly are set to retire on June 30, and the election notification is likely to be issued next week.

The retiring members include Naseer Ahmed, BK Hariprasad, and Tippannappa Kamaknoor (Congress); MTB Nagaraj, K Prathap Simha Nayak, and Sunil Vallyapur (BJP); and Govindaraju (JD(S) member.

Meanwhile, the terms of H Vishwanath, Bharathi Shetty, Shantaram Siddi, and Dr Talwara Sabanna (BJP), and Ramesh Babu (Cong), who are nominated members of the Legislative Council, will end in July.

6 cops suspended after explosives found during PM's B'luru visit



BENGALURU

Six policemen were placed under suspension pending inquiry after gelatin sticks were recently found on the outskirts of Bengaluru during Prime Minister Narendra Modi scheduled visit.

Following orders by R Srinivas Gowda, Superintendent

of Police, Bengaluru South District, a Police Sub-Inspector (PSI), an Assistant Police Sub-Inspector (ASI), and four constables were suspended for alleged dereliction of duty.

The incident occurred on May 10 when two gelatin sticks, six incense sticks, a matchbox, cellophane tapes, a battery pack, wires and what appeared to be a circuit board were found 20 feet from a mud road adjacent to the forest area close to Kanakapura Road.

Prime Minister Modi was in Bengaluru to participate in the celebrations marking 45 years of The Art of Living (AoL) Foundation and the 70th birthday of its founder, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.

The explosives were found nearly one-and-a-half hours ahead of the PM's visit.

BJP's Panda wins Falta repoll by over 1.09 lakh votes

Kolkata: The first-ever BJP government now has 208 seats in the West Bengal Assembly as Debangshu Panda won the Falta constituency repoll by a margin of 1,09,021 votes on Sunday.

Once a Trinamool Congress stronghold, Panda's nearest rival was from the CPI(M), while Congress came third as TMC's Jahangir Khan slipped to fourth position.

Few days prior to the re-election, Jahangir Khan had announced that he would not be in the contest, a decision the Trinamool described as personal.

The repoll was conducted on May 21 in all 285 booths under heavy central force deployment after the Election Commission ordered fresh voting following allegations of large-scale irregularities during the April 29 polling.

QUICK READ

MVJ Medical College to hold Graduation Day on May 26

CH News, Bengaluru
MVJ Medical College and Research Hospital will organise the 17th Graduation Day ceremony for undergraduate students of the 2020-21 batch on May 26. Karnataka Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao will be the chief guest and deliver the convocation address. The function will be presided over by college chairman M J Mohan. Chief Executive Officer Dharni Mohan and Principal B Ravichander will also participate in the programme, according to a release issued by the institution.

Elderly man killed in road accident before daughter's eyes

CH News, Bengaluru
An 80-year-old man was killed after being hit by a speeding motorcycle while crossing a road near Seetharambhatarapalya in Nelamangala taluk on the outskirts of Bengaluru. The deceased was identified as Bhootaiah, a resident of Srirampura in Hosadurga. According to police, the accident occurred when he was attempting to cross the road and was struck by a motorcycle travelling at high speed. The incident unfolded in front of his daughter, leaving the family devastated. Bhootaiah died on the spot due to severe injuries. The Nelamangala Traffic Police have registered a case and launched an investigation into the accident.

Turtle-themed postal envelopes released at Bannerghatta Park

CH News, Bengaluru
World Turtle Day was celebrated at the Bannerghatta Biological Park in collaboration with India Post, the Post Crossing Welfare Society of India and Postcard Ville. As part of the celebrations, nine special postal envelopes featuring land, sea and freshwater turtles were released. Visitors were educated about the distinguishing features of different turtle species and their ecological significance. A short conservation film highlighted ways in which the public can contribute to turtle protection efforts. The display of turtle specimens also drew considerable attention from tourists. Among those present were postal department officials Dinesh Narayan and Nalini, park Deputy Director Anusha, Dr Prayag, Zonal Forest Officer Anand Madane, Deputy Zonal Forest Officer Arpita and Mahesh.



Back-to-school shock: School bag and shoe prices jump up to 25%

Rising fuel, transport and raw material costs burden parents statewide heavily.

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Parents across Karnataka are facing a fresh financial burden ahead of the new academic year, with the prices of school bags and shoes witnessing a sharp increase due to rising fuel, transportation and raw material costs.

As schools prepare to reopen in June, families have begun purchasing essential items for students. However, many are finding that school bags and footwear now cost significantly more than they did a year ago. According to traders and retailers, prices have increased by 10% to 25%, affecting both branded products and locally manufactured items.



Retailers attribute the rise largely to higher fuel prices, which have pushed up transportation costs across the supply chain. Goods transported from manufacturing units to wholesale markets and retail stores are now incurring higher logistics expenses. Increased diesel prices have also raised lorry freight charges, making interstate transportation more expensive.

"Every stage of transportation has become costlier. Manufacturers and distributors are paying more to move goods, and those costs eventually reach consumers," said a retailer in Bengaluru.

Industry representatives say rising production costs have further contributed to the price hike. The prices of key raw materials used in manufacturing school bags and shoes, including rubber, leather, plastic, foam and fabric, have increased considerably over the past several months.

Manufacturers are struggling to absorb these additional expenses and have been forced to revise product prices. As a result, customers

are now paying substantially more for items that are considered essential for the school year.

The seasonal rush ahead of school reopening has also played a role in driving up prices. Demand for bags, shoes, uniforms and other educational supplies traditionally peaks during May and June, giving traders limited room to offer discounts.

Parents, particularly those from middle-income households, say the cumulative impact of education-related expenses is becoming increasingly difficult to manage. Apart from tuition fees, they are already spending on textbooks, notebooks, uniforms and transportation.

"Every year the expenses increase. This time, even basic items like school bags and shoes have become much costlier," said a parent shopping for her children in Bengaluru.

The impact is being felt not only in physical stores but also on online shopping platforms, where many products have seen noticeable price increases.

Traders warn that prices may rise further if fuel rates continue to climb in the coming weeks. With transportation and manufacturing costs showing no signs of stabilising, parents may have to brace for higher spending throughout the back-to-school season.

Revised domestic workers bill eases rules on homeowners, cuts penalties

BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has prepared a revised draft of the Karnataka Domestic Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill, 2026, incorporating several changes to the original proposal released in October last year. The revised bill seeks to strengthen welfare measures for domestic workers while relaxing some of the stringent provisions and penalties that had drawn objections from homeowners' associations.

The new draft was discussed at a recent Cabinet meeting and is aimed at extending social security benefits to domestic workers, who fall under the unorganised sector. The legislation proposes welfare measures such as provident fund benefits, accident compensation, insurance coverage, skill development programmes, educational assistance for children and funeral support.

Karnataka, MP Explore Bioenergy Partnership

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board (KSDBB) Chairman S. E. Sudheendra met Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav at Bengaluru Airport and discussed renewable energy cooperation, bioenergy projects, and Karnataka's proposed new bioenergy policy.

During the meeting, Sudheendra explained that Karnataka's upcoming bioenergy policy is designed to promote energy self-reliance, improve farmers' income, generate employment opportunities, and attract fresh investments into the renewable energy sector. He also outlined the State's efforts in expanding bioenergy infrastructure, strengthening research activities, and promoting sustainable fuel development.

The leaders also revisited earlier discussions on exploring the bioenergy potential of Madhya Pradesh. Dr. Mohan Yadav invited Sudheendra to visit the



State and collaborate on future bioenergy initiatives and development opportunities.

The discussion highlighted that the current Compressed Biogas (CBG) technology being implemented in Madhya Pradesh for cow dung and municipal solid waste management has its origins in Bengaluru. Both sides also explored broader cooperation with KSDBB in areas such as advanced laboratory facilities, research expertise, technical support, and policy guidance for strengthening the bioenergy ecosystem.

The meeting reflected a shared commitment towards green energy, sustainable growth, and building a stronger bioenergy future for India.

Bengaluru cannot be contractors' playground, says Tejasvi Surya

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya has urged the Karnataka government and Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) not to proceed with new flyover projects without public consultation and disclosure of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), saying major infrastructure decisions must be transparent and people-centric.

His remarks come amid B-SMILE's proposal to construct nine short and medium-length elevated corridors across Bengaluru at an estimated cost of Rs 3,100 crore. Many of the proposed projects fall within the Bangalore South parliamentary constituency and require wider public discussion before implementation, Surya said.

In a letter addressed to B-SMILE Director B.S. Pral-

had, Surya sought clarity on the rationale, technical feasibility and projected impact of the proposed corridors. He alleged that the projects were being advanced without adequate transparency or public scrutiny.

Among the projects highlighted in the letter are an elevated corridor from Minerva Circle to Hudson Circle with a loop flyover to Town Hall, a 5.2-km elevated corridor linking Old Madras Road to Electronics City via Swami Vivekananda Metro Station, Indiranagar, Old Airport Road and Hosur Road up to Silk Board Junction, estimated at Rs 852 crore, and a 5.3-km elevated corridor from Shoolay Circle to St John's Hospital Road through Anepalya and Adugudi Junctions at a cost of Rs 519 crore.

Surya cited the Ragigudda

Surya further pointed out that the projects have allegedly not received prior approval from the Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority, the statutory body responsible for reviewing major mobility projects. Without such scrutiny, he argued, it remains unclear whether the flyovers are based on scientific traffic planning or would simply shift congestion from one junction to another rather than solving it.

flyover as an example of infrastructure projects that can worsen traffic congestion if not planned properly.

According to him, the elevated corridor ends at a busy signal near Aurobindo Junction, merely shifting the traffic bottleneck from Central Silk Board to another location and causing severe congestion during peak hours.

The MP also questioned why the DPRs for the proposed projects had not been placed in the public domain despite their long-term im-

Bengaluru cannot be run like a contractors' playground, Surya added, insisting that public participation must form the basis of major infrastructure decisions in the city.

pact on the city's mobility network. "Bengaluru cannot be run like a contractors' playground," Surya said, adding that citizens must have a say in projects that significantly alter the city's infrastructure and traffic patterns.

Kannada cinema must reconnect with its cultural roots, says K.V. Prabhakar

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

Chief Minister's Media Adviser K.V. Prabhakar (KVP) has expressed concern over the changing direction of the Kannada film industry, saying it has gradually drifted away from its cultural roots and social responsibilities.

Speaking at the seminar "Chandanavana: Then, Now and Tomorrow" organised by the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce, KVP said Kannada cinema was once a powerful cultural movement that reflected the language, literature, traditions and values of Karnataka.

"Kannada cinema was never just about entertainment. It served as a mirror of society and played an important role in shaping Kannada identity," he said.



Recalling landmark films of earlier decades, KVP said classics such as Chomana Dudi, Bangarada Manushya, Bara and Yajamana addressed social concerns, farmers' struggles, family values and the dignity of labour. These films, he noted, won the hearts of audiences while contributing

to social awareness.

He criticised the growing trend of violence-centric films that rely heavily on "machete heroism" and lack meaningful content. According to him, the excessive focus on such themes has affected the overall quality of cinema and weakened its connection with Kannada

culture.

At the same time, KVP praised the global success of recent Kannada films such as K.G.F., Kantara, 777 Charlie and Vikrant Rona, which have showcased Kannada storytelling on the international stage.

He urged filmmakers not to sacrifice regional identity in the pursuit of pan-India success and advocated a balanced approach that combines strong storytelling, cultural values and modern technology. KVP also called for greater recognition of writers, directors and technicians, stating that successful cinema is the result of collective creative effort. He assured the gathering that the State Government would sympathetically consider the demands placed before it by the film industry.

Kanak Entrepreneurs' Meet highlights business opportunities

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

The Halumatha Entrepreneurs' Association organised the Kanak Entrepreneurs' Meet and Entrepreneurship Opportunities Awareness Programme at the Sri Kanakadasa Community Hall in Jnanaganga Nagar, Visvesvaraya Layout, Bengaluru, on May 24.

The event aimed to create awareness about entrepreneurship opportunities and encourage members of the community to explore business and self-employment ventures.

The programme was held in the presence of Sri Eshwaranandapuri Mahaswamiji of the Hosadurga branch of Kaginale Kanaka Gurupitha and

Sri Yogeshwarananda Mahaswamiji of Ramohalli Ramakrishna Ashrama, who highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship, self-reliance and community development.

Among the dignitaries who attended were H.M. Revanna, State President of the State Five Guarantee Committee; former minister Bandeppa Kashyampur; former MLA Hulinaykar; educationist and youth leader B.G. Vinay Kumar; T.B. Belagavi; Dr Leela; Rudranna Gulaguli; Siddalinga Poojari; Gyanappa Huded; and Sunil Jayaraj.

Speakers stressed the need to empower aspiring entrepreneurs and create greater awareness about emerging business opportunities and government support schemes.



KEA to hold CET seat allotment workshops across Karnataka

BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) will organise "CET Seat Allotment Manthana" workshops across 65 government engineering, medical and dental colleges in the state from May 25 to 30 to help students and parents better understand the counselling and seat

allotment process for professional courses.

Announcing the initiative, KEA Executive Director H. Prasanna said the workshops aim to create awareness and prevent common mistakes during option entry and counselling, which often result in students losing seats in preferred colleges despite securing good ranks.

Silence behind bars: Vipassana helps inmates seek a new beginning

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

In a unique rehabilitation initiative, 24 convicts lodged at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison spent 10 days in silence, meditation and self-reflection as part of a Vipassana programme organised by the Prisons and Correctional Services Department.

The programme, aimed at encouraging personal transformation and emotional healing among inmates, required participants to step away from their daily prison routines and



spend 10 days in isolation inside a designated prison hall. Guided by trained instructors and supported by prison staff, the inmates followed the prin-

ciples of Vipassana, an ancient meditation practice focused on self-observation and mental discipline.

For many participants, the

experience proved deeply transformative.

One inmate, who worked as a driver before imprisonment, said he had long been interested in the teachings of spiritual thinkers such as Gautama Buddha, Osho and Ramana Maharshi. However, Vipassana allowed him to experience those ideas in a practical way.

"Through Vipassana, I became aware of the sensations within my body, learned how to sharpen my mind and understood ways to reduce sadness and negativity within myself,"

he said.

The inmate added that the programme helped him realise the importance of self-control and personal responsibility.

"If we adopt these teachings in our lives, we can avoid making mistakes, live peacefully in society and walk on the right path. In doing so, we can also inspire others," he said.

Another participant described the programme as a turning point in understanding the connection between thoughts, emotions and behaviour.

QUICK READ

Mediation drive announced to resolve pending cases

CH NEWS, SAVANOOOR The Taluk Legal Services Committee, Savanoor, has announced a mediation programme to settle pending civil, criminal and pre-litigation cases. The initiative is being conducted under the directions of the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, Bengaluru, in coordination with the District Legal Services Authority, Haveri. Officials said the mediation session will be held on July 11, 2026, at 10 am in the court premises. Parties whose cases are settled through mediation will not have to pay any court fees. Authorities have urged the public to participate in the programme and resolve disputes peacefully through mutual agreement and legal support.

Heavy rain floods highway areas in Bhatkal

CH NEWS, BHATKAL Heavy rain in Bhatkal and nearby areas on Saturday night and Sunday morning caused severe waterlogging along National Highway-66. Roads and low-lying places were flooded, creating problems for motorists and pedestrians. In several locations, traffic movement was also disrupted due to stagnant rainwater on the highway. Residents expressed concern as the issue appeared at the beginning of the monsoon season itself. Locals blamed poor drainage arrangements in ongoing highway work areas for the flooding. People demanded immediate clearing of drains and better rainwater flow systems.

Hostel students protest over poor facilities in Kanakagiri

CH NEWS, KANAKAGIRI Students at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Government Post-Matric Boys' Hostel on Tavaragera Road staged a dharna on Sunday, alleging poor basic facilities and mismanagement. They said the lack of clean drinking water has forced them to use borewell water, leading to frequent illness among students. The students also complained about damaged toilets and bathrooms, poor quality food, and irregular meals not matching the menu. They added that frequent power cuts make studying at night difficult. Students further said there is no proper arrangement of beds and rooms despite adequate enrolment.

Ambedkar owes nation says Jnanaprakash Swamiji

SURAPURA The nation is deeply indebted to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar for framing the Constitution that ensures equality and progress for all citizens, said Jnanaprakash Swamiji, head of Urlinga Peddi Math in Mysuru. He was speaking at a programme held in Surapura during the unveiling of Dr. Ambedkar's statue at Ambedkar Nagar and a mass marriage ceremony conducted under Buddhist rituals at Darshan Bhoomi Buddha Vihara. The event was organised by the Indian Buddhist Mahasabha and the Federation of Dalit Organisations.

Farmers wait overnight outside seed centres

Farmers shift to soybean and groundnut after maize losses but face seed shortages from preferred companies

HAVERI

With the onset of strong pre-monsoon rains, farming activity has increased across Haveri district. Farmers are now actively preparing their fields for the upcoming sowing season, but a shortage of seeds has forced many to wait in long queues, even overnight. Farmers in several areas, including Tavaramellihalli, Savanur town, and Haveri city, have been seen waiting in front of seed distribution centres. Many of them have been standing in queues since late night or sleeping outside the centres to secure seeds for sowing. After earlier losses in maize



cultivation, most farmers are now showing interest in growing soybean and groundnut crops. However, they say that seeds of preferred companies are not available in many centres, causing frustration among the farming community. While the Agriculture De-

partment has stated that there is no shortage of seeds, farmers allege that specific varieties are not being supplied as demanded. This mismatch has led to long queues and growing dissatisfaction. To manage the crowd, a token system has been introduced in Haveri city seed dis-

Fraud case against Congress leader's husband

BALLARI

A major fraud case has been registered in Ballari against the husband of a Congress Municipal Corporation member along with 12 others following a complaint filed by district administration and revenue department officials. Police at the APMC station in Ballari registered an FIR after officials accused the group of illegally encroaching on government land creating fake documents and cheating people through fraudulent land deals. According to the complaint Honnurappa has been named as the first accused while Congress leader Shivaraj husband of Municipal Corporation member Umadevi has been listed as accused number six.

Cases have been filed under sections related to cheating, forgery and illegal occupation of government land. Officials alleged that the accused conspired to falsely claim ownership of government land and collected lakhs of rupees from buyers by preparing unauthorized and unregistered sale documents. The complaint stated that plots of different sizes were sold to several people through fake agreements causing financial loss and deception. The case has created political discussion in Ballari as the district administration itself officially approached the police seeking legal action against the accused persons. Police have started an investigation into the allegations and further inquiry is underway.

Responding to media reports Congress leader Shivaraj denied direct involvement in the case and claimed he only acted as an intermediary in financial transactions. He said the land belonged to another person and explained that people approached him because he was a Congress leader and his wife was a corporation member. He further stated that he had earlier advised people not to construct houses on government land and maintained that buyers had independently negotiated the transactions. Police officials said the investigation will continue to determine the extent of the alleged fraud and identify the role played by each accused in the land dealings and document preparation process in the district.

Farmers end Chikkodi protest after assurance

CHIKKODI

The farmers' protest that continued for four days in Chikkodi has been called off after officials from the Water Resources Department gave an assurance to meet their demands within two months. The agitation, led by farmer organisations including the Karnataka Rajya Rai tha Sangha and Hasiru Sene, had brought normal life to a halt in parts of Hukkeri taluk in Belagavi district. Protesters had gathered in large numbers at Court Circle, demanding speedy implementation of irrigation-related projects. Over the past few days, tensions had increased as farmer leaders warned of expanding the protest to the entire district and even blocking national highways if their demands were not addressed. The situation created pressure on the administration to respond quickly. In response, senior officials from the Water Resources Department visited the protest site and held discussions with the leaders. During the talks, they assured that the irrigation



project demands raised by farmers in Hukkeri taluk would be implemented within a period of two months. Following this assurance, farmer leaders decided to withdraw the ongoing protest. They said the decision was taken in the interest of maintaining peace and trusting the government's commitment. However, the farmers also made it clear that the agitation is only temporarily suspended. They warned that if the promises are not fulfilled within the given time frame, they would resume their protest with greater intensity. The development has brought temporary relief to the administration and residents of the area, while attention now remains on whether the government will meet the deadline and address the long-pending irrigation demands in the region.

North Karnataka faces heavy rain alert warning

DHARWAD

Heavy thunderstorms and rain are expected in North Karnataka for the next three days as the monsoon moves towards the state according to the Meteorological Department and Dharwad Agricultural University report. Thunderstorms began from Saturday night and rainfall has affected many districts and is likely to continue, with warnings issued to farmers to stay alert during field activities. The department has forecast rain with thunder lightning and strong winds in districts including Yadgir, Raichur, Bagalkot, Ballari, Vijayanagar, Davangere, Chitradurga, Tumakuru, Chikkaballapur, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Kolar, Ramanagara, Chamarajanagar, Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada. Due to a low pressure system in the Bay of Bengal hailstorm warnings have been issued for Bagalokot, Gadag and Dharwad districts while monsoon is expected to enter Karnataka around June 1.

Kannada lecturer highlights importance of cultural programmes

GADAG

Kannada lecturer Bahubali Jainara said annual festivals should encourage students to develop personality through cultural literary social and sports activities along with academics while speaking at the annual friendship conference of K H Patil Government First Grade College Hulakoti for the academic year 2025-26. He said such programmes provide a good platform for students to display hidden talents and improve confidence and communication skills. The event began with a prayer by student Jayashree Goniswamy followed by welcome speech and introduction by IQAC Co Coordinator Dr Manjunath Thyalgadi. Cultural department coordinator Ramesh Hulakunda presented the annual report highlighting achievements of students and various activities organised by college departments and units during the academic year. Students from

BA BCom and BSc sixth semester shared experiences about the role of professors and educational environment in their academic and personal development. Cash prizes and certificates were distributed to students who excelled in competitions seminars sports NSS Red Cross and cultural activities and those who represented the college in university level programmes. Professors Dr Appanna Hanje and Dr Lakshmana Mulgund were felicitated after their promotion to professor rank. Students Ajay MC and Nanda Kudagol from Chalukya Mallakamba Academy impressed audience with stunt performances along with their trainer Vijay MC and team. College Principal Dr Sudha Kaujageri said the institution has grown with support guidance and cooperation from leaders and faculty members and has created a positive environment for physical intellectual and overall student development.

Yadgir launches 7 crore road works project

YADGIR

Development works worth ₹7 crore were launched in Yadgir city with a focus on improving roads, traffic movement, and basic infrastructure for the growing urban population. MLA Chennareddy Patil Thunnuru said that since Yadgir became a district headquarters 15 years ago, efforts have been ongoing to strengthen civic infrastructure in line with the city's expansion. He was speaking after laying the foundation stone for multiple works, including road widening, divider construction, footpaths, electrical facilities, and road re-asphalting under the Public Works Department at Hosalli Cross. The MLA said that Hosalli Cross is a densely populated area and the ongoing 900-metre road widening will help improve vehicle movement and ease parking issues in the locality. He also stated that



MLA said Hosalli Cross road widening, re-asphalting, and 8 crore bridge project will ease traffic, improve safety, and solve monsoon commuting problems

the re-asphalting of a 4.8-km stretch will significantly benefit daily commuters and improve road safety in the region. Highlighting past issues, he said that the narrow Pagalapur bridge caused major traffic problems during the monsoon season, especially affecting school vehicles and local commuters. To address this, a new bridge and road improvement works worth ₹8 crore were taken up, providing a permanent solution to

Joshi stresses transparent jobs at Hubballi Mela

HUBBALLI

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi said that the Central Government is giving top priority to transparent and corruption-free recruitment processes. He made this statement while addressing candidates at the Rozgar Mela held at the Railway Officers Club in Keshwapur, Hubballi. The event witnessed the distribution of employment certificates to selected candidates from various departments. Around 150 candidates received appointment letters for jobs in sectors including Railways, banking, central government services and central universities. Speaking at the program, the minister urged the newly selected candidates to dedicate themselves to public service.

Farmers receive quality seeds fertilizers ahead monsoon season

BELAGAVI

The agriculture department has launched an extensive seed treatment and input distribution campaign across rural areas of Belagavi ahead of the upcoming monsoon cropping season. The initiative aims to ensure timely availability of quality seeds and fertilizers, while also promoting scientifically treated seeds to improve crop productivity and reduce early-stage crop diseases. This year, the district has set a sowing target of about 7,52,312 hectares. To support this large-scale cultivation plan, demand has been recorded for 37,543 quintals of seeds and 1,27,413 metric tonnes of chemical fertilizers. Officials noted that fertilizer demand has increased significantly compared to previous seasons, reflecting both higher cultivation intensity and changing soil nutrient requirements. To address recurring issues of substandard seeds and farmer complaints in past years, the agriculture department is conducting village-level seed treatment drives. These programs ensure seeds are tested and treated before distribution, reducing the risk of crop failure and improving germination rates. So far, seed treatment activities have been carried out in around 392 villages, with instructions that only verified and tested seeds should be distributed. Recent weather conditions have also supported early agricultural preparation. Unseasonal but beneficial rainfall



since early April has helped maintain soil moisture levels. Unlike previous years when extreme summer heat dried and cracked the soil, this season's moderate conditions have allowed farmers to begin land preparation earlier than usual. The district has 35 farmer contact centers and additional primary agricultural cooperative societies, through which seeds and fertilizers are being stocked and distributed. In total, inputs are being managed across 172 distribution centers to ensure accessibility in rural areas. However, some farmers have reported delays in receiving seeds at local centers. Officials have responded that procurement and supply will continue until May 25, and adequate stock will be ensured to prevent shortages. Authorities have also cautioned about possible fertilizer supply constraints due to international geopolitical tensions affecting chemical imports, and have initiated early stockpiling measures since March to mitigate risks. Overall, the campaign focuses on strengthening preparedness, improving input quality, and ensuring smooth supply chains for the monsoon farming season in Belagavi district.

Former MLA H P Manjunath distributing appointment letters said unemployment is high and private jobs are the best option for youth as government jobs are limited. He said TVS company provides good salary, facilities and job security and urged selected candidates to work with confidence and build their future.

QUICK READ

Welfare initiative supports vulnerable sections of society

MANGALURU

Jnanodaya Seva Trust from Urva Store in Mangaluru marked its annual day by reaching out to the children of Padil Kodekal Sanvedana Ashram with much-needed supplies. The organisation handed over rice, daily provisions, books, and school bags to the young residents. Trust president Arun Kumar along with other members personally attended the distribution event and interacted with the children. The initiative reflects the trust's ongoing commitment to supporting vulnerable sections of society through such welfare activities.

Money doubling fraud company action demanded case

KALABURAGI

In Kalaburagi, people have alleged that a Solapur-based BVG company cheated them by promising to double money through RD and FD schemes. Between 2011 and 2014, the company operated an office on Hala Javeragi Road and collected deposits from over 2,000 people, mostly labourers. Later, the office was closed and the operators reportedly absconded, leaving investors without their money. The victims now say they are facing harassment from depositors who demand repayment. They have submitted complaints to police and senior officials, but no action has been taken so far. Residents are demanding strict action against the accused company and its representatives for the alleged fraud say locals in Kalaburagi district.

Fugitive Wanted for 7 Years in Burglary Case Apprehended

MANGALURU

City resident Akram alias Boja Akra, who had been evading authorities in connection with a 2015 burglary case registered at Uppinangadi police station, was taken into custody on May 22, 2026. The accused faced charges under Sections 457 and 380 of the Indian Penal Code in Crime No. 158/2015 and had failed to appear before the court for approximately seven years. Officers from Uppinangadi police station, led by Investigation-2 PSI Kaushik B C along with HC-826 Shivarama Rai and PC-2277 Mahadev, located and arrested him at Panambur in Mangaluru. Following his arrest, the police produced Akram before the court, which ordered him to be placed in judicial custody. Records show that the accused has three additional cases pending at Panambur police station and one more at Ullal police station.

Parameshwara stresses tech for industrial growth

Parameshwara stressed developing Antarasanahalli and Vasantha Narasapura industrial hubs, expanding infrastructure and attracting investments

TUMAKURU

Home Minister and District In-charge Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara said that the use of modern technology is essential for the growth of small-scale industries in Karnataka. He made this statement while addressing the South India KASSIA Conference organised by the Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association at the Glass House in Amanikere, Tumakuru.

He noted that small-scale industries contribute nearly 30 per cent to the state's economy and stressed the need to further strengthen the industrial sector. He said industrial development in regions like Tumakuru would play a key role in the overall economic progress of the state. Dr. Parameshwara highlighted the importance of developing industrial zones such



as Antarasanahalli Industrial Area and Vasantha Narasapura Industrial Hub. He said the government is committed to expanding infrastructure and attracting more investments to these regions. He also expressed confidence that Tumakuru has the potential to grow into an international industrial centre in the coming years. He mentioned that efforts are being made to encourage

large-scale projects, including the possibility of helicopter manufacturing in the district. The minister further said that the government is ready to allocate around 300 acres of land for industrial development. He also pointed out that 42 acres have already been allotted for the KSCA cricket stadium, reflecting balanced development across sectors. He added that Tumakuru is

receiving 15 to 20 TMC of water under the Hemavathi project, which will support both industrial and agricultural needs. He said development in industry, education and infrastructure must go hand in hand for long-term progress. Local MLA G.B. Jyothi Ganesh, Tumkur University officials and representatives of the industrial association were present at the event.

Manjunath said education drives social change, urging institutions to focus on students' future, discipline, and responsibility

Education must inspire values not business motives: Kotturu Manjunath

KOLAR

MLA Kotturu Manjunath said educational institutions should focus on providing quality learning and building responsible citizens instead of treating education as a business. He spoke during a talent award programme organised by the Millath Welfare Trust at Millath Nagar in Kolar, where meritorious students were honoured for their academic achievements. Manjunath said education plays an important role in social transformation and institutions must guide students towards knowledge, disci-

pline and social responsibility. He added that schools and colleges should concentrate on students' futures rather than financial gain. MLC Nazeer Ahmed advised students to reduce excessive use of mobile phones and television and spend more time on studies. He encouraged students to participate in extracurricular activities along with academics and said values and character are equally important for success in life. He also urged children to respect and care for their parents. Bengaluru North University Syndicate member Arbaz Pa-

sha said awareness programmes are being conducted to encourage higher education among girls. He said financial support is also being provided to poor students so they can continue their studies without interruption. Several public representatives, teachers, students and parents attended the programme. Organisers said the event aimed to motivate students from all backgrounds to pursue higher education with confidence and contribute positively to society through hard work, discipline and community service.

MLA reviews forest fire incident near Indi

HORTI

A recent forest fire incident occurred in the forested area near Horti, close to the Sawalasinga hill region. The fire, which reportedly spread due to wind and dry conditions following intermittent rainfall, prompted immediate concern from local authorities and residents. Local MLA Yashwantharayagouda Patil visited the affected site to inspect the damage and assess the situation. During the visit, he reviewed the extent of the fire damage and discussed preventive measures with forest department officials to ensure that such incidents do not recur in the future. The MLA emphasized the importance of strengthening fire safety protocols in forest zones,

especially during seasonal transitions when dry vegetation and wind conditions can increase the risk of fire outbreaks. He instructed officials to implement stricter monitoring systems and rapid response mechanisms to control any future incidents at an early stage. Preliminary discussions at the site also highlighted the need for immediate ecological restoration in the affected area. The MLA urged coordinated efforts between government departments and local communities to restore greenery and prevent long-term environmental degradation. Concerns were also raised regarding possible accountability, with calls for action against responsible parties linked to nearby infrastructure ac-

tivities, including wind energy projects in the region. Officials noted that further investigation would determine the exact cause and any regulatory lapses. Representatives from the forest department, local panchayat members, and villagers from nearby settlements were present during the inspection. They collectively stressed the need for increased awareness, better forest protection measures, and stronger enforcement of environmental safeguards. Overall, the visit underscored the urgency of balancing development activities with environmental protection while ensuring that vulnerable forest areas receive adequate preventive attention and rapid emergency response systems.

Minister Somanna inspects M'luru Junction redevelopment

MANGALURU

V. Somanna, Minister of State for Railways, carried out a detailed inspection of Mangaluru Junction Railway Station to evaluate the progress of redevelopment works under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. During his visit, the Minister examined multiple infrastructure improvements and passenger amenity enhancements while directly engaging with travellers to understand their views on current services and upcoming changes.



A high-level review of ongoing station upgrades highlights the push for superior infrastructure and passenger-friendly facilities under the national railway modernisation drive.

Somanna stressed the need for maintaining highest quality benchmarks throughout the construction process. He directed officials and contractors to develop the station as a proud national landmark featuring world-class design, full accessibility, and superior comfort for all users, in keeping with the goal of building a modern Indian Railways. Captain Brijesh Chowta, Member of Parliament from Dakshina Kannada, accompa-

nied the Minister along with Madhukar Roat, Divisional Railway Manager of Palakkad Division, and other senior branch officers. Capt. Chowta stated, "Examined the redevelopment initiatives through which railway stations across India are being transformed with modern passenger amenities, improved accessibility, enhanced connectivity, and a better travel experience for citizens."

Heavy rain disrupts transport in Raichur

RAICHUR

Heavy rainfall in Raichur district caused significant disruption to transport, rural connectivity, and daily life after a temporary bridge was washed away in Sindhanur taluk. Continuous rain led to overflowing streams, damaging weak and unfinished infrastructure across several villages. In the Chirtnal-Bommanal area of Sindhanur, a temporary bridge built over a local stream was completely swept away as water levels rose rapidly following heavy showers. The bridge had been serving as an essential link for villagers, students, and workers while a permanent construction project has been delayed for several years. Its loss has forced residents to take long detours of nearly 8 kilometers to reach Sindhanur town, affecting access to markets, schools, and government services. Rainfall activity was recorded across multiple parts of the district, with Raichur city receiving about 17.4 mm of rain. Moderate to heavy showers were also reported in Deodurga, Manvi, and Sirwar taluks. Though the rainfall was seasonal, it triggered localized flooding in vulnerable areas due to poor drainage and weak stream embankments. In Lingasugur taluk, overflowing halla (streams) submerged low-lying causeways and cut off road connectivity at several points. Near the Hatti gold mining region, rising water levels disrupted transportation routes, temporarily isolating nearby settlements. Strong winds accompanied the rain in some areas, leading to damage in horticultural crops. Farmers reported losses, especially in papaya plantations and other standing crops, raising concerns about early monsoon-related agricultural impact.



Nagaraju accuses MLA son of political conspiracy

TUMAKURU

JD(S) leader Nagaraju has alleged that Gubbi MLA S.R. Srinivas's son Dushyant is engaging in "cunning politics" and attempting to weaken his political position through organised efforts. Speaking at the JD(S) office in Tumakuru, Nagaraju, who contested from Gubbi in the last Assembly elections, claimed that he was earlier working closely with the MLA's family but is now being targeted through political conspiracy. He alleged that Dushyant Srinivas had been meeting close aides, former staff, and associates in Bengaluru late at night to collect personal information about him and build a negative narrative. Nagaraju said attempts were being made to gather details about his personal life, income sources, and alleged weaknesses in order to defame him and damage his political and business reputation. He further alleged that MLA S.R. Srinivas was also indirectly supporting such activities through his influence and power as an elected representative. He stated that these actions were aimed at politically weakening him in Gubbi con-

stituency, but he would not be intimidated by such strategies. Nagaraju warned that if direct political confrontation continues, he would respond firmly to both the MLA and his son in the political field. He also claimed that efforts were being made to disrupt his business activities and pressure his supporters, which he described as misuse of political power. JD(S) leaders supporting Nagaraju said that such "personal attack politics" should be avoided and that political competition should remain issue-based and democratic. They warned that continued targeting of party workers and leaders would lead to strong opposition within the constituency. Party workers and local JD(S) leaders present at the meeting expressed solidarity with Nagaraju and urged that internal party discipline and fair political conduct be maintained. Meanwhile, the allegations have created fresh political tension in Gubbi constituency, with supporters from both sides exchanging strong statements. The issue is expected to escalate further as local leaders continue to react to the claims and counter-claims made during the meeting.

Brahmavar Police Stress Legal Awareness Drive

BRAHMAVAR

Legal awareness is important for people to live freely and safely in society, said Sub-Inspector Mukta Bai of Brahmavar Police Station. She made the statement while addressing a legal awareness programme organised for beauty parlour trainees and computer DTP students at Rudset Institute in Brahmavar. She explained that understanding laws related to cyber safety and personal protection is necessary in today's digital world. She advised participants to be careful when joining unknown WhatsApp groups and to exit such groups immediately to avoid cyber risks. She also warned youth to be cautious while using social media platforms like Snapchat. The officer also highlighted the importance of

awareness about the POCsO Act and encouraged students to stay informed about laws protecting children and young people. She further advised them to avoid panic and seek proper help in difficult situations, reminding them that every problem has a solution and life should be valued. Probationary Sub-Inspector Ashrita spoke about cybercrime and said that victims of online fraud should immediately contact the cybercrime helpline 1930 and file complaints without delay. She also cautioned people against clicking suspicious APK files that are often used for digital scams. Assistant Sub-Inspector Vital provided information on road safety rules and stressed the importance of following traffic regulations to prevent accidents.

Civic bodies organise animal welfare initiative programme

BENGALURU

A free dog adoption and vaccination camp was successfully held in Bengaluru South, where homeless animals were adopted and vaccinated as part of a welfare initiative. The programme was jointly organised by the Bengaluru South Municipal Corporation, Jayanagar Canine Squad and Shivshakti Development Trust. The event received a positive response from the public, with animal lovers ac-



tively participating in the adoption process. A total of 10 homeless puppies and one kitten were adopted during the camp. Each

of them was taken into safe homes in the presence of volunteers and veterinary staff, marking a successful step towards animal welfare and re-

habilitation. Along with the adoption drive, a free vaccination campaign was also conducted to protect the health of animals. Officials said that 20 dogs were administered combined vaccines during the camp. In addition, rabies vaccination was provided to a total of 30 dogs, ensuring better protection against the disease and improving public safety. Chief Veterinary Officer Dr. Srinath said the main aim of the programme is to provide safe shelter for street animals

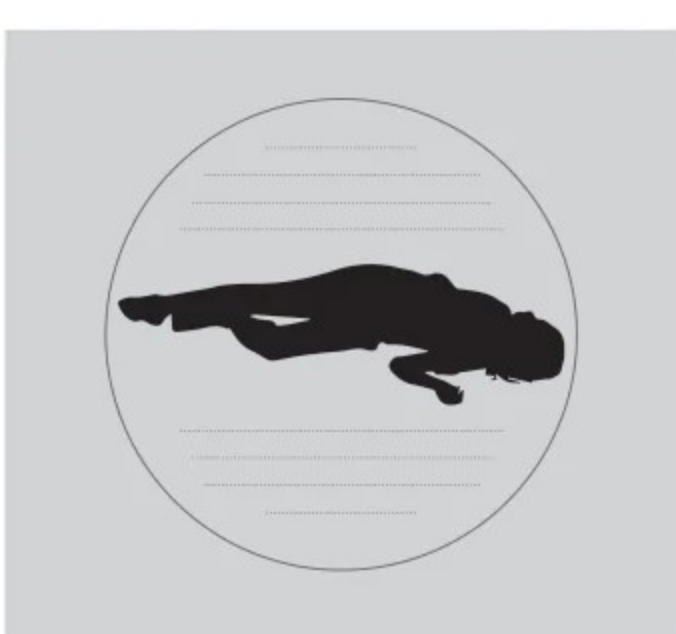
and ensure their health and wellbeing. He appreciated the support of partner organisations and volunteers in making the camp successful. He also said that similar programmes will be organised in the future to promote animal welfare and encourage public participation in caring for stray and homeless animals. Municipal staff, veterinary teams, volunteers and animal lovers participated in the event and contributed to its smooth execution.

QUICK READ

Twisha Sharma cremated 13 days after death

BHOPAL

Thirteen days after model Twisha Sharma's mysterious death, her final rites were performed at Bhad-bhada Vishram Ghat. The cremation follows a second autopsy conducted at AIIMS Bhopal by a top Delhi forensic team. This fresh examination was ordered after Twisha's grieving family objected to the initial medical report. Expressing profound sorrow, her father, Navnidhi Sharma, noted that the long delay severely intensified their emotional trauma during the traditional mourning period. Meanwhile, Twisha's husband remains in police custody. The shattered family has demanded a transparent investigation, placing their ultimate faith in the legal process to find justice.



Assailants shoot Punjab cop on duty

AMRITSAR

A Punjab Police Assistant Sub-Inspector was shot dead by unidentified attackers. The victim, Joga Singh, was traveling for daily duty when bike-borne shooters opened fire at Hamza Morh. Hit by four bullets, the officer died instantly before the killers fled. Senior police teams and forensic experts rushed to the scene, quickly cordoning off the area to gather evidence. Investigators are currently scanning local CCTV footage to identify the suspects. Coming right before local elections, this brutal killing has sparked severe security concerns. Officials promised a thorough investigation to catch the culprits soon.

ARMY HUNTS TRAPPED TERRORISTS IN RAJOURI

JAMMU

The joint operation, involving the Army, Police, and CRPF, began after hiding terrorists fired upon security forces. Soldiers quickly surrounded the area, plugging all escape routes. Officials believe two to three terrorists are trapped inside the challenging, steep terrain of the Pir Panjal range. Surveillance has been intensified with checkpoints monitoring nearby movement. Combing operations continued systematically throughout the day. Fortunately, no casualties have been reported so far. Local residents are cooperating fully, hoping for a peaceful and quick end to the tense standoff.

Goyal: Opposition plotting chaos across the nation

Union Minister Piyush Goyal attacked Rahul Gandhi, accusing the opposition of plotting to destabilize India through chaotic conspiracies.

NEW DELHI

A fierce political war of words erupted as Union Minister Piyush Goyal launched a scathing attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, accusing the opposition of plotting to destabilize the nation.

The row started after Gandhi reportedly told a party committee that the Modi government would fall within a year due to rising public anger over the economy.

According to reports, Goyal

claimed Gandhi's words reveal a dangerous conspiracy to spread chaos across India. He argued that because the opposition cannot defeat Prime Minister Narendra Modi through normal democratic elections, they are now trying to trigger violence and unrest instead.

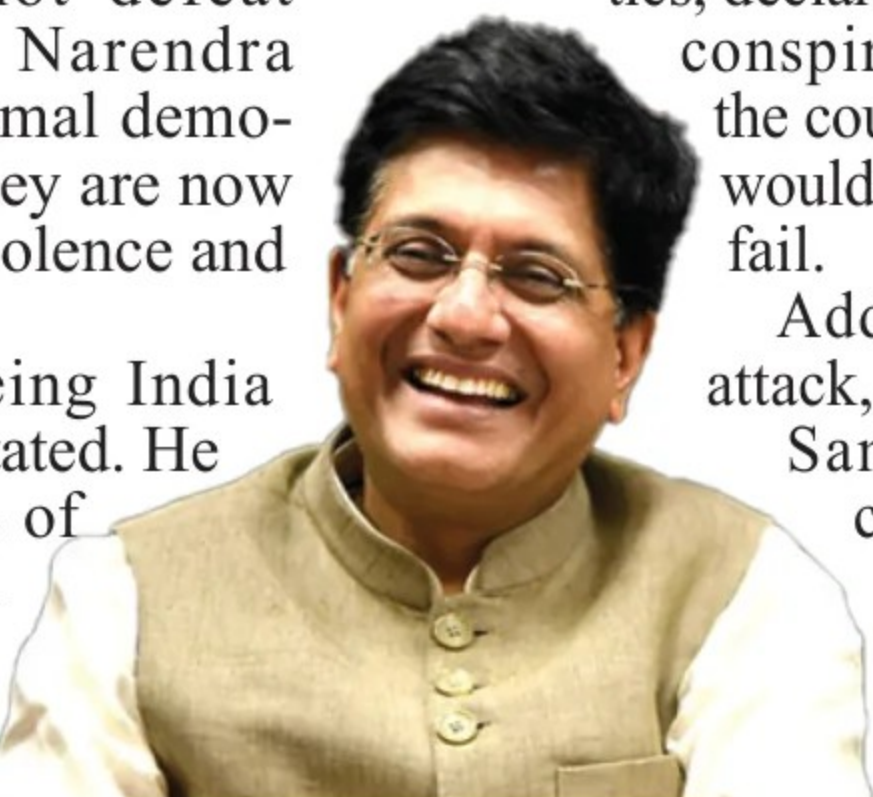
"They hate seeing India succeed," Goyal stated. He accused Congress of insulting national institutions and begging foreign

powers to interfere in internal matters. However, the minister remained confident that the public would reject these tactics, declaring that any conspiracy to set the country ablaze would completely fail.

Adding to the attack, BJP leader Sambit Patra called Gandhi's statements intention-

ally provocative. Patra reminded voters of past instances where the Congress leader made aggressive remarks against the Prime Minister, suggesting this is part of a repeated, troubling pattern.

Meanwhile, inside the Congress meeting, leaders like Imran Masood focused on reshaping their political strategy. They discussed ways to strengthen the party's bond with the Muslim community and highlight their contributions ahead of the next elections.



Hyderabad Police launched a manhunt after senior advocate Khaja Moizuddin was killed in a planned hit-and-run attack.

Manhunt launched for Hyderabad advocate's killers

HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Police have launched a massive manhunt for four suspects following the targeted killing of senior Telangana High Court advocate Khaja Moizuddin. Four special police teams are tracking the suspects, who were spotted on security cameras.

The tragedy occurred near Moizuddin's home in the Masab Tank area. Around 4:45 a.m., as the advocate was getting into his car, a speeding SUV without a license

plate hit him from behind and fled. Moizuddin suffered severe injuries and later died in the hospital.

While initially viewed as a hit-and-run accident, police registered a murder case after reviewing CCTV footage. The video showed the suspects waiting near his house, indicating a well-planned attack. Investigators believe the suspects monitored the area for three days before striking.

Moizuddin had practiced law for 35 years, and police suspect his murder is tied to

ongoing legal disputes over Waqf land encroachments. The victim's family has named two specific individuals who previously threatened him.

According to the victim's son, Farhan, who is also a lawyer, his father had survived five past attacks. He revealed that one suspect even visited his father's office recently, delivering a chilling "last warning" to drop the land cases. Police are now using this crucial information to track down the killers.

Delhi Court acquits five in spying case

NEW DELHI

Delhi Court recently acquitted five men, including an Indian Army soldier and a BSF personnel, in a 2015 spying case. While clearing the accused, the court strongly criticized the prosecution, flagging major loopholes and sloppy investigative work.

The accused were all residents of Jammu and Kashmir, were arrested by the Delhi Police under the Official Secrets Act. The prosecution alleged that the main suspect, Kafait Ulla Khan, ran a pan-India network of informers, leaking sensitive border deployment details to a Pakistani agent named Faizal Ur Rehman.

However, Additional Sessions Judge Shefali Barnala Tandon ruled that the prosecution completely failed to prove its case.

The court noted that there was absolutely no evidence connecting the men to any foreign agent.

Furthermore, official reviews confirmed that the documents seized during the arrests were not actually classified or secret.

The judge also rejected the electronic evidence presented by the police, including WhatsApp chat transcripts and audio recordings on a CD.

CM Rekha Gupta ends Harsh Vihar blackout

NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has successfully resolved a long-pending electricity crisis in Harsh Vihar A-3, bringing immense relief to residents who had been waiting for power connections since 2018.

The breakthrough came during a public grievance hearing, or Jan Sunwai, where the Chief Minister personally met with members of thirty-six affected families. Upon hearing about their multi-year struggle to secure basic power access, Gupta took immediate administrative action and ordered municipal officials to prioritize the neighborhood's electrical needs.

Working in an urgent mission mode, local authorities swiftly installed a new power transformer in the area. Offi-

Palaniswami blames TN govt for blackouts

CHENNAI

AIADMK leader Edappadi K. Palaniswami launched a fierce attack on the newly elected Tamil Nadu government, blaming them for severe power cuts hitting households and businesses across the state.

Palaniswami stated that everyone knows electricity demand shoots up during the hot summer months. He claimed that under the previous AIADMK administration, officials planned ahead to secure extra solar, wind, and thermal power, keeping the state running smoothly without any blackouts.

In contrast, he accused the current government of poor planning and unstable management. He noted that prolonged, unannounced power cuts are now ruining daily life, leaving residents with sleepless nights and disrupt-

AIADMK's Edappadi K. Palaniswami slammed the Tamil Nadu government over severe summer power cuts, accusing them of poor planning that disrupted citizens and local businesses.

ing simple household chores like cooking. The electricity shortage has also hit local industries, causing heavy financial losses for small and large businesses alike.

Public anger is growing, with reports of stressed citizens taking to the streets in protest, particularly in Chennai's suburbs like Thandaiyarpet. Palaniswami warned the new administration not to use its recent election victory as an excuse for the crisis. He urged officials to take immediate, emergency action to restore steady electricity.

Abhishek Banerjee seeks extension over property notice

KOLKATA

Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee has approached the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) requesting additional time to respond to a property valuation and demolition notice. The civic body recently issued the order regarding an allegedly illegal portion of his residence, "Santiniketan," located on Harish Mukherjee Road in South Kolkata.

However, through a formal letter sent by his lawyer, the Diamond Harbour MP has requested a ten-day extension. In such administrative matters, municipal corporations generally grant extensions when formally requested.

The KMC had previously dispatched notices to two of Banerjee's addresses being Kalighat Road and Harish Mukherjee Road. The corporation questioned whether proper municipal sanctions were obtained for recent building modifications. Officials also ordered the removal



of unauthorized sections and placed nearly seventeen properties linked to him under surveillance.

The issue has already created a buzz in local political circles. Recently, when journalists questioned him about the municipal notices outside Mamata Banerjee's Kalighat residence, the Trinamool General Secretary briefly lost his composure. He told reporters to pinpoint exactly which section of his house was unauthorized before questioning him. Despite his sharp media reaction, Banerjee has chosen a legal approach by seeking more time to submit his official reply. Civic officials are expected to review the extension request before deciding on their next steps.

NEET accused Shubham Khairnar sent to judicial custody

NEW DELHI

The Rouse Avenue Court sent Shubham Khairnar, a prime accused in the high-profile NEET-UG 2026 paper leak case, to judicial custody until June 6. Khairnar was produced before the court by the Central Bureau of Investigation, which is currently leading the nationwide probe.

The development follows an intense briefing on May 21 by National Testing Agency Director General Abhishek Singh before a Parliamentary standing committee. Committee members raised sharp queries regarding security lapses and discussed ways to make the testing system more robust. Digvijaya Singh, Chairman of the Parliamentary panel, noted that all members are deeply concerned about the exam's integrity.

CBSE announces refunds after post result portal glitch

NEW DELHI

Following intense backlash, the Central Board of Secondary Education announced it will refund Class 12 students who were overcharged due to technical glitches while applying for scanned copies of their answer sheets.

The board confirmed that system errors on May 21 and

Nationwide Jain protests follow deadly MP accident

REWA

The nationwide Jain community announced a peaceful protests following a horrific hit-and-run accident in Madhya Pradesh that claimed the lives of two revered Jain Sadhvis.

The tragedy occurred on May 20 near the Rewa Collectorate during a traditional religious foot journey. A speeding car mowed down three walking Sadhvis. Shrut-mati Mata died instantly at the scene. The other two victims, Upsamiti Mata and Arika Mata, were rushed to the hospital with critical injuries, where one later passed away.

The driver, Rashid Ali Shah, fled immediately with his family. However, police arrested him near Jabalpur after an intense 270-kilometer highway chase. Investigators have registered a case of rash driving and murder under the

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Public anger has intensified after media footage revealed the car swerving sharply off the center of the road to hit the women along the edge. This has raised deep suspicions within the community, with many demanding a thorough investigation into a potential conspiracy.

In response, major cities including Delhi, Mumbai, Bhopal, and Ahmedabad will support in the peaceful march. Community leaders and senior monks have appealed for calm while strongly emphasizing the need for better roadside security for barefoot ascetics. Rajya Sabha member Naveen Jain expressed solidarity with the grieving community, while the Madhya Pradesh government assured strict action against the accused. The tragedy has united the community in its resolve to protect its religious leaders.

Why can't India buy cheap Iran oil: Sanjay Singh

BHUBANESWAR

Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh launched a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, holding him directly responsible for the country's ongoing fuel crisis.

Speaking to reporters in Odisha, Singh highlighted the severe shortage of petrol, diesel, and gas, noting that fuel prices have jumped three times in the last ten days. He criticized the administration for lacking policies to protect

public welfare, pointing out that citizens are currently forced to wait in long lines just to refuel their vehicles.

The lawmaker questioned why India cannot buy cheaper oil from Iran. "If China can purchase oil from Iran, why can't India?" Singh asked, suggesting that the Prime Minister is too scared of economic pressure from the United States to secure affordable energy supplies for Indian citizens. Singh argued that India's current reliance on oil.

AIADMK FACES NEW SETBACK AS VENUGOPAL RESIGNS

CHENNAI

The AIADMK suffered another major political setback as former Lok Sabha member Dr. P. Venugopal resigned from the party.

His sudden exit comes at a time when the opposition party is already battling intense internal dissent and a visible leadership crisis.

Dr. Venugopal, a prominent Scheduled Caste leader and two-time MP from Tiruvallur, previously served as the AIADMK Parliamentary Party

leader. In an official statement, he explained that the party has steadily lost support among Scheduled Caste communities since the death of former Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa, leading to consecutive election defeats. He emphasized that the party urgently needs a more inclusive approach to survive.

Taking a direct swipe at AIADMK General Secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Venugopal criticized his leadership style and recent organizational decisions.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT TRIBAL WELFARE OFFICER CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT, CHAMARAJANAGAR.

3rd Floor, Tribal welfare Dept. Building Mahaveera divine city Pragathi Nagar, Chamarajanagar 571313

Phone/Fax: 08226-226070 & 08226-226070

Email: dtwoffice.217@gmail.com

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

No. DTWO/OS/staff/Oursource/CR/2026-27

Date: 21-05-2026

For the year 2026-27, for the Outsource service of vacant posts of Teachers, Data Entry Operators, Drivers, Lecturers, Non-Teaching, FDA, SDA, Nurses, Group 'D' Employees, Cooks, Kitchen Assistants, Night Watchmen, Cleaning Staff in the offices, Residential School, Ashrama School and Hostels to the Tribal Welfare Department under the jurisdiction of Chamarajanagar district in double envelope system. Short Term Tender Announcement through e-procurement will be issued on Date: 12.05.2026 to 11.06.2026 by 4.00PM on the website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in eligible organizations are invited to upload the relevant documents as per the terms and conditions of the tender.

For further information, the Office of the District Tribal Welfare Officer, # 3rd Floor, Tribal welfare Dept. Building Mahaveera divine city Pragathi Nagar, Chamarajanagar 571313 requested to be contacted during office hours.

NO: DIPR: CHANAGAR: 129:2026-27

District Tribal Welfare Officer Chamarajanagar Dist. Chamarajanagar



Cool comfort: Zoo's protect animals from heat

CH NEWS, RANCHI
As scorching heatwaves sweep the country, Ranchi's Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park has introduced special cooling measures for its sixteen hundred animals. Zoo veterinarian Dr. Omprakash Sahu stated that carnivores like tigers and leopards now have individual air coolers and bathing tubs. Birds are being housed under newly built shelters and fed hydrating seasonal fruits like watermelon, alongside essential multivitamins. Similar animal welfare initiatives are being rolled out nationwide, with zoos in Lucknow, Dehradun, and Bathinda installing water sprinklers, fountains, and protective tarpaulins to shield vulnerable wildlife from dangerous heat stress.

Soaring heat triggers animal bite surge

CH NEWS, SAMBHAL
Intense heatwave conditions in Sambhal have caused a worrying surge in dog and monkey bite cases. Officials revealed that extreme temperatures are making stray animals highly aggressive, with fifteen to twenty-five victims arriving daily at the district hospital. In response, the municipal council has deployed a ten-member team to capture dangerous animals and is planning a new birth control center. Following recent Supreme Court directives to clear strays from public spaces like hospitals, District Magistrate Ankit Khandelwal confirmed that the administration will assess aggressive animals and build local shelters to ensure public safety.

Police seize banned Chinese manjha in Delhi

CH NEWS, NEW DELHI
The Delhi Police Crime Branch arrested two individuals, including a prominent supplier, during a major raid in West Delhi's Uttam Nagar. Officers recovered over two thousand rolls of prohibited, hazardous synthetic kite string from their possession. The operation was launched following specific intelligence regarding the illegal storage and city-wide distribution of Chinese manjha. In an unrelated security drive, North Delhi Police executed a massive cordon and search operation near Wazirabad. Triggered by resident complaints about dark patches attracting criminals, forces set up checkpoints to curb illegal firearms, narcotics, and vehicle thefts, promising more surprise checks soon.

Gujarat's premium mangoes take over London Heathrow

GANDHINAGAR

The heavenly fragrance of fresh Kesar and Alphonso mangoes is filling the cargo bays of London Heathrow Airport. Gujarat's cult-favorite fruits have officially conquered international markets, becoming a highly sought-after luxury for both homesick Indians and European consumers. Importer Digvijaysinh Gohil shares that overseas buyers willingly purchase these

Padma honorees demand critical health reforms

Two Padma Shri awardees have urged critical healthcare and social reforms ahead of receiving India's high civilian honor.

NEW DELHI

On the eve of receiving their Padma Shri awards, two inspiring individuals made powerful appeals for critical healthcare and social reforms in India.

Nilesh Mandlewala, founder of "Donate Life," strongly advocated for organ donations from brain-dead patients. Dr. Suresh Hanagavadi, a haemophilia survivor, pushed for job reservations to support individuals battling the genetic bleeding disorder. Both will receive the nation's high civil-



ian honor from President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Expressing deep gratitude to the central government, Mandlewala shared that the honor belongs to the entire organ do-

nation movement, including grieving families who chose to save others. Influenced by his father's past illness, Mandlewala has facilitated over 1,300 successful donations. He aims to ensure that by the centenary of India's independence in 2047, no patient dies awaiting a timely transplant.

Meanwhile, Dr. Hanagavadi highlighted the steep challenges of haemophilia. He explained that the condition frequently causes severe physical disabilities by adolescence, which can be prevented through timely prophylactic

and non-factor therapies. Because the lifelong disease causes major educational and psychological disruptions, he urged the government to include job reservations for patients under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act.

Both awardees emphasized that their new national recognition brings a greater responsibility to serve. They hope to use their platform to establish advanced transplant centers nationwide and create a genuinely supportive environment where children with chronic conditions can safely thrive.

Temperatures touch 47.4°C in Chhatarpur district

CHHATARPUR

A strict red alert for extreme heatwave conditions remains in place across Chhatarpur district, with temperatures crossing 41°C since the early morning hours.

Recent recordings show temperatures soaring to a punishing 47.4°C in areas like Khajuraho and Nowgong. The severe heat has forced local weekly markets into complete silence, leaving streets and commercial hubs entirely deserted. Residents are avoiding the outdoors, venturing out only for highly critical or urgent tasks.

"The impact of this weather can be felt everywhere," said Dilip Kshatriya, a local resident. To combat the scorching conditions and stay hydrated,

people are heavily relying on water and fresh sugarcane juice.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department predicted that temperatures in the national capital would touch 44°C. The weather agency has strongly advised the public to limit outdoor activities during peak afternoon hours and avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight.

Health experts recommend consuming seasonal fruits with high water content, such as watermelon, cucumber, and cantaloupe, alongside leafy vegetables. Instead of dehydrating beverages like caffeine, alcohol, and sugary drinks, citizens are encouraged to drink traditional cooling options like shikanji and lassi to keep their body temperatures stable.

Ghosh launches "Sarasari Shankar" outreach

SILIGURI

BJP MLA Shankar Ghosh hit the streets to hear local complaints through his direct public outreach project, "Sarasari Shankar." Ghosh visited multiple municipal wards to connect face-to-face with residents and discuss long-standing neighborhood issues.

The lawmaker promised

swift, organized action to fix these civic problems. He emphasized that regular public meetings help shape better government policies, ensuring that everyday citizens feel genuinely heard and supported by their leaders.

Switching to state matters, Ghosh also spoke about the recent suspension of three top

police officers linked to the RG Kar investigation lapses. He firmly stated that the administration is dedicated to bringing back the rule of law in West Bengal. Ghosh assured reporters that a proper departmental inquiry is underway, promising that the legal system will act strictly based on the final investigation findings.



Ladakh LG announced a massive ecological restoration drive alongside pioneering geothermal energy exploration reforms.

800 acres of barren land restored in Ladakh

LEH

In a major environmental push, Ladakh Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena announced the launch of a massive ecological drive to restore nearly 800 acres of barren land at Spituk Village in Leh.

The ambitious project relies on cost-effective, innovative freshwater engineering. By channelizing surplus water from the recently revived Igoo-Phey Canal using simple machinery, authorities plan to hydrate soil that has been completely parched for hundreds of years. This freshwater discharge will actively flush out toxic salts, recharge depleted groundwater levels, and securely bind the soil. Ultimate-



ly, the process will trigger natural vegetation growth, turning unproductive wasteland into highly fertile, moisture-retaining ecosystems.

Speaking about the initiative, Saxena noted that the drive directly builds on the success of the region's previous "Project Him Sarovar." It also complements the broader revival of the Igoo-Phey Canal, which currently irrigates over 4,300 hectares of land. The Lieutenant Governor expressed optimism that the Spituk project

will serve as a premier model for ecological transformation across the Union Territory, adding vital land for sustainable farming.

Alongside this green restoration, Ladakh is advancing with significant energy sector reforms. The region is set to launch its first-ever commercial exploration of geothermal energy as a clean, sustainable power source. To back this, Saxena approved a five-year extension of a pact with the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation to construct India's pioneer geothermal power facility in the Puga Valley. Located at an altitude over 14,000 feet, the extension ensures that crucial work halted by harsh winter conditions can finally finish.

Bengal mandates holding centers for foreign prisoners

KOLKATA

The West Bengal government has directed all district magistrates to set up dedicated holding centres for apprehended foreigners and released foreign prisoners who are currently awaiting deportation or repatriation.

According to an official communication from the Home and Hill Affairs Department, the districts must take immediate steps to house individuals staying illegally in the country. This includes foreign nationals who have completed their prison sentences but remain in India awaiting formal deportation. The directive instructs local authorities to act strictly in accordance with the Ministry of Home Affairs framework regarding deportation procedures for illegal immigrants, specifically focusing

on Bangladeshi nationals and Rohingyaas.

This administrative move aligns with recent security shifts under the state's new government. Chief Minister Suvennu Adhikari recently directed state police officials to hand over detected Bangladeshi immigrants directly to the Border Security Force, rather than presenting them in court.

In a related security measure, border fencing work has officially begun in the Phansidewa area of Siliguri subdivision. This development started after the West Bengal government handed over a crucial twenty-seven kilometers of land to the BSF, resolving a long-pending transfer to strengthen international border infrastructure. Local residents have expressed immense relief over these rapid border security measures.

UP CM Yogi Adityanath ordered uninterrupted power supply amid heatwaves, while converting 89.23 lakh smart meters to postpaid billing and establishing dedicated grievance redressal camps.

CM Yogi demands uninterrupted in power distribution

LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordered the state energy department to ensure an uninterrupted electricity supply across both rural and urban areas to combat the ongoing extreme heatwave.

Reviewing power arrangements alongside Energy Minister Arvind Kumar Sharma, the Chief Minister stated that electricity is vital for citizens, farmers, and industries. He demanded that the distribution system become highly

consumer-centric and sensitive to public needs. Adityanath warned that any negligence regarding transformer breakdowns, feeder disruptions, or delayed complaint redressal would face strict accountability.

The directive comes amid soaring temperatures in April and May, which pushed average power demand up to 561 million units per day. To manage this load, the state transmission network current-



ly operates over 60,858 circuit kilometers with minimal losses. The Chief Minister urged continuous monitoring of this modern network to prevent any sudden technical failures.

For better transparency, Adityanath instructed officials to provide timely updates to the public during unavoidable power outages. He also announced a major shift in the state's smart meter policy, converting 89.23 lakh smart

prepaid meter consumers back to the traditional postpaid billing system. Starting June, these bills will be sent via SMS, WhatsApp, and email within the first ten days of each month.

Furthermore, dedicated grievance camps are being organized across Uttar Pradesh until June 30 to swiftly resolve smart meter complaints. The Chief Minister concluded by ordering strict monitoring of field officers to guarantee a reliable, consumer-friendly power supply.

CM Rekha Gupta prioritizes farmer's well-being

NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta declared that rural growth and farmers' wellbeing remain her administration's primary goals. Speaking at Jan Seva Sadan, Gupta met with agricultural representatives to address regional farming challenges. Local farmers praised the government's recent choices to restart wheat buying at Minimum Support Price and expand solar energy across rural fields. Gupta noted that officials received strict orders to solve these agricultural issues quickly and with deep empathy. Meanwhile, the Chief Mi-

nister brought major relief to thirty-six families in East Delhi's Harsh Vihar.

IN THE COURT OF THE JUDGE AND JUDGE AT DODDABALLAPURA

Call No. 2272928

Petitioners: Sri.Munishappa S/o Late Kuntappa Agad about 85 years, Riet Dasgondanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and others

Vis Respondent: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the Petitioners has filed the above petition under Section 13 (3) And 14 Of Registration Of Births And Deaths Act, 1969 for: seeking the death certificate of the father of petitioner No.1 and father in law of petitioner No.2 and grandfather of petitioner No.3 to 11 by name LATE KUNTAPPA S/O LATE MUNIYAPPA who died on 02.05.1970 at Dasgondanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.

In this regard it is hereby notice that whoever has interested in the said matter may appear in person or through an advocate duly authorized before the above said court on 01.07.2026; If default this matter with be heard and disposed of an ex-parte order.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on the 20th day of may 2026.

By order of the court

Chief Ministerial Officer Prt. Civil Judge & JMFC at Doddaballapura

Advocate: RD Prakash, Near Mathayya Darsanini Hotel, Court Road Vinayakanagar Doddaballapura Town-561203

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SOMASHEKHAR KAYAKAD S/o NINGAPPA KAYAKAD, R/o Kote Oni, Rattihalli, Haveri, Karnataka-581116, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SOMASHEKARAPPAN.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VAKAPALLI RAVINDRA NADH S/o VAKAPALLI VISWANADHAM, R/o 33, 1st Floor, 6th A Cross, Trinity Enclave, Banjara Layout, Kalkere, Horamavu, Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560043, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as V RAVINDRANATH.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, G PURUSHOTHAMA S/o N GOPIKRISHNA, R/o 222, 3rd Cross, Laggere Main Road, F F Layout, Bangalore North, Peenya Small Industries, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560058, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as PURUSHOTHAMA G.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, M K CHANDRU alias CHANDRU M K S/o KRISHNAPRASAD, R/o 77, Ganagooru, Somawarpet, Ganagur, Kodagu, Karnataka-571236, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DHANANJAYYA K.

CHANGE OF NAME

It is for general information that I, SUBASH SAI INAPAKUTHIKA S/o MALLIKARJUNA SAI, R/o 309, Sangamitra Residency, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Opp Kothanuru Lake, K L V Layout, J P Nagar 8th Phase, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore South, Bangalore, Karnataka-560076, declared that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as SUBASH I and DIVYA I in my minor son namely AASHRIT RAM INAPAKUTHIKA aged 17 years in his CBSE class 10th educational documents. The actual name of mine and my wife are SUBASH SAI INAPAKUTHIKA and DIVYA INAPAKUTHIKA respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAHUL P BAFNA S/o PARKASH F JAIN R/o 503, Parkwest Apartment, Magadi Road, Hosakere Road, Near ETA Mall, Binnypet, Magadi Road, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560023, have changed the name of my minor daughter RUKSHI NAYANA JAIN aged 15 years and she shall hereafter be known as RUKSHI SANVIKA JAIN.



QUICK READ

Chinese ship leaves after tense standoff near Taiwan

TAIPEI

A Chinese coast guard ship left waters near Taiwan's strategically located Pratas Islands at the top of the South China Sea on Sunday following a tense standoff and verbal sparring between the coast guards, Taiwan's Coast Guard said. China claims democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory, a position the government in Taipei rejects. China has pressured Taiwan by increasing its military presence around the island, and Taipei is on high alert for further Chinese actions after President Xi Jinping discussed Taiwan with U.S. President Donald Trump in Beijing this month.

'Evict ousted oppn leadership from headquarters'

ANKARA

Turkish authorities ordered police to evict the leadership of the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) from their headquarters on Sunday, enforcing a court ruling that reinstated the former leader and fuelled a political crisis. Riot police and crowds gathered outside the gates of CHP headquarters in the Turkish capital after the Ankara governor's office issued the order to remove CHP members aligned with ousted leader Ozgur Ozel. A Turkish appeals court on Thursday annulled the results of a CHP congress at which Ozel was elected in 2023, citing unspecified irregularities. In Ozel's place, the court reinstated former CHP Chairman Kemal Kilicdaroglu, who lost to President Tayyip Erdogan in elections earlier that year.

Israeli fire kills parents, their infant in Gaza

CAIRO

An Israeli airstrike on an apartment in a refugee camp in central Gaza on Sunday left three people dead, including a six-month-old child. Medics named the three who died in the Nuseirat refugee camp as Mohammad Abu Mallouh, the infant's father, Alaa Zaqlan, the mother, and their child, Osama. Later on Sunday, Israeli gunfire killed a Palestinian man in the north of the enclave in Jabalia refugee camp, medics said. At the morgue in Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir Al-Balah, relatives of three dead family members arrived to bid farewell to their white-shrouded bodies. A man sleeping along with his wife and their 6-month infant son in their bed. The rocket fell on his bed, and it took him, with his wife and son, leaving behind six young girls, they said.

Torrential rains flood China, 3 dead, 17 missing

CHONGQING

Severe flooding triggered by sudden extreme rainfall in southwestern China's Chongqing municipality has left three people dead and 17 others missing, as per reports. China's state-run Xinhua news agency reported that the death toll from the flooding had risen to three by Sunday afternoon, while rescue teams continued searching for 17 people who remain unaccounted for. The flooding occurred after intense rainfall swept through Chongqing's

US-Iran inch closer to deal to end war

The proposed peace deal seeks to reopen strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy transit routes, amid lingering disagreements.

WASHINGTON

The United States and Iran have largely negotiated a memorandum of understanding aimed at ending months of conflict and reopening the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, according to US President Donald Trump.

President Donald Trump announced on social media that Washington and Tehran had made significant progress toward a peace arrangement that could soon reopen the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy transit routes. The closure of the strait since February has disrupted global oil supplies and sharply increased fuel and commodity prices worldwide.

Trump stated that the final details of the proposed deal were currently under discussion and that an official announcement could come shortly. Reports from American and Iranian media sug-



gested that the memorandum outlines a phased framework to end the conflict, restore maritime traffic through the strait, and ease U.S. restrictions on Iran's oil exports and ports.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who is currently visiting India, also hinted that important developments could emerge within hours. According to a senior Iranian source, the memorandum would require approval from Iran's Supreme National Security Council before being forwarded to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei

for final authorization.

However, Iranian media indicated that disagreements still remain over certain clauses. Iran's Tasnim news agency reported that Tehran would not finalize the agreement if the United States continued to create obstacles during negotiations.

The proposed framework reportedly includes commitments from Iran not to pursue nuclear weapons, while allowing the country to continue certain civilian nuclear activities. Discussions regarding Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium are expected

to continue for another 30 to 60 days under the draft arrangement.

The agreement is also expected to include assurances that neither side nor their allies would launch attacks against one another. In exchange, the United States may lift some sanctions and end its blockade on Iranian ports, enabling Iran to freely sell oil again.

Despite optimism surrounding the talks, experts cautioned that a full recovery in global oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz could take until 2027. The prolonged disruption has already contributed to rising costs of fuel, fertilizer, and food across international markets.

Meanwhile, Israeli politician Benny Gantz warned against linking any broader regional ceasefire arrangements with ongoing military operations involving Hezbollah in Lebanon.



Suicide car bomb attack on Pak train kills 24

ISLAMABAD

At least 24 people were killed and around 70 others injured after a powerful bomb blast struck a shuttle train carrying Pakistani security personnel and their families in the southwestern province of Balochistan on Sunday.

According to provincial government and security officials, the explosion targeted a shuttle train transporting passengers from Quetta's cantonment area to connect with the long-distance Jaffar Express service. The blast occurred near a railway line in a residential part of the city and caused widespread destruction.

Pakistan's railways ministry stated that the explosion derailed the train engine and three coaches, while two additional coaches overturned due to the force of the blast. Emergency services and security personnel quickly reached the site, cordoning off the area as rescue operations continued throughout the day.

A security official said the attack appeared to involve an explosives-laden vehicle that struck one of the train's bogies. In addition to passengers on the train, several residents of a nearby apartment building were reportedly among the dead and injured due to the intensity of the explosion.

Images from the scene showed burnt vehicles, mangled railway coaches, shattered buildings, and thick smoke rising above the wreckage. Rescue workers were seen searching through debris while ambulances transported injured victims to hospitals in Quetta.

The Balochistan Liberation Army has claimed responsibility for the attack

The Baloch Liberation Army, a separatist militant organization active in Balochistan, claimed responsibility for the bombing and described it as a suicide attack. However, independent verification of the claim was not immediately possible.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif strongly condemned the attack, calling it a heinous bomb explosion in a statement posted on social media platform X. He expressed condolences to the families of the victims and said the entire nation stood in solidarity with the people of Balochistan during this difficult time.

Balochistan, Pakistan's largest but least populated province, has witnessed years of insurgent violence involving separatist groups that accuse the central government of exploiting the region's natural resources without adequately benefiting local communities. The province borders both Iran and Afghanistan and remains strategically important because of its mineral wealth and major infrastructure projects.

The latest bombing follows several major attacks in the region over recent months. In March 2025, militants from the same separatist group hijacked the Jaffar Express train and held hundreds of passengers hostage before security forces launched a military operation to end the standoff. According to the military, that incident resulted in the deaths of 21 hostages, four soldiers, and all 33 attackers.

Explosions echoed throughout the city after Ukraine's air force warned that Russia could deploy its Oreshnik hypersonic missile

RUSSIA BATTERS KYIV WITH WAVE OF MISSILES, DRONES

KYIV

Russia carried out one of its heaviest attacks on Kyiv and surrounding regions since the beginning of the war, launching hundreds of drones and missiles overnight and firing an Oreshnik hypersonic missile near the Ukrainian capital.

The overnight bombardment began shortly after midnight and continued for several hours, sending residents rushing into underground shelters and metro stations across Kyiv. Explosions echoed throughout the city after Ukraine's air force warned that Russia could deploy its Oreshnik hypersonic missile, a powerful weapon capable of carrying nuclear warheads and striking targets thousands of kilometres away.

According to Ukrainian officials, this was only the third time Russia had used the Oreshnik missile since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine began in February 2022. President Zelenskyy said the missile struck Bila Tserkva, a city

located about 64 kilometres from Kyiv with a population of around 200,000 people.

Ukraine's air force reported that Russia launched a total of 90 missiles and 600 drones during the attack. In Kyiv alone, at least two people were killed and dozens were injured, while additional casualties were reported in nearby regions. Mayor Vitali Klitschko described the night as terrifying and said emergency workers were continuing rescue operations, extinguishing fires, and clearing debris from damaged buildings.

Several residential complexes, schools, and public facilities suffered heavy damage during the strikes. Windows were shattered in Ukraine's Foreign Ministry building, and destruction was also reported near Independence Square, one of Kyiv's most important landmarks.

Residents described scenes of panic as explosions rocked the capital throughout the night. Sixty-two-year-old Natalia Zvarych said she fled to a metro station as soon as the

attacks began. She explained that frightened civilians remained underground for hours while listening to repeated blasts above the city.

President Zelenskyy accused Russia of deliberately targeting water supply infrastructure ahead of the summer season in an effort to create additional hardship for civilians. He urged the United States, Europe, and other allies to respond strongly and ensure that Russia faced consequences for the attacks.

Russia's Defence Ministry stated that the assault was retaliation for alleged Ukrainian strikes on civilian targets inside Russia. Moscow claimed it had targeted Ukrainian military command centres, intelligence facilities, air bases, and defence industry sites using Oreshnik, Iskander, Kinzhal, and Zircon missiles. Although Russia denies intentionally attacking civilians, thousands of people have been killed during repeated bombardments of Ukrainian cities since the war began more than four years ago.

20 feared trapped after building collapses

PHILIPPINES

Rescue teams in the Philippines are racing against time after a building under construction collapsed in the city of Angeles on Sunday, trapping more than 20 people beneath the rubble. Officials said at least five people have been confirmed trapped, while many others are believed to still be missing under the debris.

The multi-storey structure collapsed in Angeles city, located north of the Philippine capital Manila, sending huge slabs of concrete and twisted steel crashing onto surrounding areas. Rescue workers were seen climbing over unstable debris covered with construction netting as they searched for survivors trapped beneath the wreckage.

BEIJING

Chinese authorities have revised the death toll from a massive coal mine explosion in northern China to 82, after earlier reports incorrectly stated that at least 90 people had been killed.

The gas explosion at the Liushenyu coal mine in Shanxi province is now considered the country's deadliest mining accident in nearly two decades.

The deadly explosion occurred late on Friday at the Liushenyu coal mine located in Qinyuan county of Shanxi province, a major coal-producing region in northern China. Local officials confirmed during a press conference night that 82 workers had lost their lives in the incident, while two others remained missing underground.

China revises Shanxi coal mine death toll to 82

Authorities explained that the earlier death toll released by state media had been incorrectly calculated because of chaotic conditions at the disaster site. Guo Xiaofang, the head of Qinyuan county, said confusion over the number of workers present underground at the time of the blast led to the inaccurate reporting.

According to officials, 247 miners were working underground when the gas explosion occurred. In addition to those killed, at least 128 workers suffered injuries and were taken to hospitals for treatment. Another 35 workers escaped without injuries.

Despite the revised number, the tragedy remains China's deadliest mining disaster since 2009, when a gas explosion at the Xinxing Mine in Heilongjiang province killed 108 people.

The Liushenyu mine is operated by the Shanxi Tongzhou Coal Coking Group. Following the disaster, authorities ordered the closure of all four mines owned by the company. Senior company executives were also detained as part of an ongoing investigation into the cause of the explosion and possible safety violations.

China's state-run People's Daily newspaper published a strongly worded editorial calling for greater attention to workplace safety and warning against prioritising economic growth over human lives.

THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY

Bahrain sentences 9 to life over alleged IRGC links

BAHRAIN

According to Bahrain's state news agency, the court found the defendants guilty of cooperating with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), in activities described as hostile and terrorist operations targeting Bahrain's national security.

The authorities stated that the convicted individuals were involved in collecting intelligence on sensitive locations within Bahrain and helping arrange financial transfers connected to the alleged operations.



Officials did not publicly disclose the specific sites that were targeted or provide further details regarding the financial activities mentioned in the court

proceedings.

The ruling follows a broader security crackdown announced earlier this year by Bahrain's interior ministry. On May 9, Bahraini authorities revealed

that 41 individuals had been arrested in connection with alleged ties to the IRGC. Officials claimed that security agencies had uncovered an organized group linked to Iran's powerful military organization.

Investigations conducted by Bahrain's public prosecutor also reportedly included cases involving expressions of support for Iranian military actions in the region. Authorities argued that such activities threatened national stability and security during a period of heightened geopolitical tensions.

sions in the Gulf.

Regional relations have become increasingly strained since the outbreak of conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel earlier this year. Following military strikes launched against Iran on February 28, Tehran responded by targeting locations in Bahrain and other Gulf Arab countries that host American military bases.

Bahrain is home to key strategic facilities used by the United States military, making the country an important security partner in the Gulf region.

QUICK READ



'Nissan unit scraps plan to make EV powertrains in UK'

TOKYO

Nissan Motor subsidiary JATCO has scrapped its plan to make electric vehicle (EV) powertrains in Sunderland, Britain, in light of sluggish demand for Nissan's EVs in Europe, the Nikkei business daily reported on Sunday. In January 2025, JATCO announced a plan to invest 48.7 million pounds (\$65.39 million) to make up to 340,000 units a year of EV powertrains that integrate the motor, inverter and reducer at a Sunderland plant for Nissan. TOKYO, May 24 (Reuters) - Nissan Motor subsidiary JATCO has scrapped its plan to make electric vehicle (EV) powertrains in Sunderland, Britain, in light of sluggish demand for Nissan's EVs in Europe, the Nikkei business daily reported on Sunday. In January 2025, JATCO announced a plan to invest 48.7 million pounds (\$65.39 million) to make up to 340,000 units a year of EV powertrains that integrate the motor, inverter and reducer at a Sunderland plant for Nissan.

China included in \$200-billion CPU market: Nvidia

TAIPEI

Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang said on Saturday that his forecast of a \$200 billion market for CPUs includes China, signalling Nvidia still sees significant long-term demand in the market amid ongoing US-China technology tensions. Central processing units have taken centre stage as companies and businesses gravitate towards agentic AI - systems that perform autonomous functions - broadening demand beyond graphics processing units, or GPUs, that are used to train large models. Huang aimed to assure investors that the world's most valuable company can keep up its blockbuster growth with the help of a broad base of customers and that new products will help it beat the \$1 trillion in sales it has forecast for its flagship AI chips.

Delivery Hero confirms takeover offer from Uber

FRANKFURT

German food delivery service Delivery Hero confirmed it had received a takeover offer from rival Uber valuing the company at 33 euros (\$38.29) per share, it said in a statement on Saturday. The offer represents a discount of about 1.76% from Delivery Hero's last close on Friday, according to LSEG data. Delivery Hero said last week its U.S. rival had increased its holding to about 19.5% of issued capital from roughly 7%, becoming its largest shareholder. The stake is worth around 1.7 billion euros, according to Reuters calculations. The German group's CEO Niklas Oestberg said last week he would step down, following campaigns by several large shareholders for a strategic review.

LIC emerges as highest profit-making fin firm in Q4

The insurance giant also retained its top position among Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in terms of quarterly profit

MUMBAI

State-owned Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has emerged as the highest profit-making company in India's financial sector during the January-March quarter of FY26, reporting a net profit of over Rs 23,400 crore.

The insurance giant also retained its top position among Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in terms of quarterly profit during the fourth quarter of FY26.

LIC last week reported a 23 per cent rise in consolidated net profit to Rs 23,420 crore for the March quarter, compared to Rs 19,013 crore in the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

The insurer outperformed major banking players including State Bank of India and HDFC Bank during the quarter.

SBI posted a net profit of Rs 19,684 crore, while HDFC Bank reported a profit of Rs 19,221 crore in the fourth quarter, according to financial



STRATEGIC GROWTH METRICS

■ **PRODUCT MIX:** The share of individual non-par products in the Annual Premium Equivalent (APE) jumped to 35.11%.

■ **SOLVENCY RATIO:** Improved to 2.35 from 2.11, reflecting robust financial health.

■ **EXPENSE RATIO:** Saw a positive decline to 11.91% compared to 12.42% in the previous year.

results filed on stock exchanges. However, on an annual ba-

Q4 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

■ **NET PROFIT:** Rs 23,420 crore (up from Rs 19,013 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year).

■ **BANKING COMPARISON:** Surpassed State Bank of India (Rs 19,684 crore) and HDFC Bank (Rs 19,221 crore) in quarterly earnings.

■ **ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM):** Reached Rs 57,29,396 crore as of March 31, 2026, marking a 5% year-on-year increase.

sis, SBI remained ahead of LIC in overall profitability for FY26. India's largest lender reported a net profit of Rs 80,032 crore during the financial year, while LIC recorded a yearly profit of Rs 57,419 crore. Private sector lender ICICI

Bank also delivered strong earnings with an annual profit of Rs 50,147 crore, whereas HDFC Bank's FY26 profit stood at Rs 74,670 crore.

Among other public sector companies, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) posted a net profit of Rs 11,378 crore in the March quarter.

Coal India followed with a profit of Rs 10,839 crore, while Power Finance Corporation (PFC) earned Rs 8,598 crore and NTPC reported a quarterly profit of Rs 8,747 crore.

Other CPSEs also reported healthy earnings during the quarter. Power Grid Corporation of India posted a profit of Rs 4,546 crore, while REC Limited reported a net profit of Rs 3,375 crore.

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) registered a profit of Rs 1,680 crore.

Following LIC's strong quarterly performance, the company's shares surged nearly 5 per cent in opening trade on the BSE on May 23, touching Rs 839 apiece.

Centre to launch Rs 32.15 crore fisheries projects in Northeast on May 25

MUMBAI

The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying will organise the Regional Review Meeting: Northeastern Region 2026 in Aizawl, Mizoram, on May 25, with Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh set to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for fisheries projects worth approximately Rs 32.15 crore.

According to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, the regional review meeting will focus on evaluating the progress of ongoing schemes and discussing future strategies for the development of the fisheries, livestock, and dairy sectors in the Northeast.

The event will be chaired by Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh and attended by Ministers of State SP Singh Baghel and George Kurian. Ministers responsible for fisheries and animal husbandry from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura are also expected to participate. Officials said the programme would be conducted in a hybrid format to allow wider participation from state governments and departmental representatives.

Senior officials from both the Centre and Northeastern states, including secretaries from the Department of Fisheries and the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, will review the implementation of various government initiatives aimed at improving productivity, infrastructure, and livelihood opportunities in the region.

The ministry stated that the fisheries projects worth around Rs 32.15 crore are intended to encourage self-sustained growth by promoting modern aquaculture practices, strengthening market infrastructure, and providing support to local beneficiaries engaged in fisheries-related activities.

During the programme, the ministry will also launch



The ministry will also launch a baseline village-level survey to expand the coverage of Multipurpose Dairy Co-op Societies across Northeast

a baseline village-level survey to expand the coverage of Multipurpose Dairy Co-operative Societies across the Northeastern states. Officials said the initiative is aimed at improving dairy sector participation and strengthening cooperative networks in rural areas.

As part of awareness and outreach activities, an educational film on African Swine Fever will be released along with a booklet titled Good Husbandry Practices in Pig Farming. These initiatives are expected to help farmers adopt better livestock management practices and improve disease prevention measures.

The event will also feature the launch of MULCO Cow Ghee by the Mizoram Milk Producers Co-operative Union Limited. In addition, authorities will inaugurate a Mizo Café and a Farmers Producer Organisation office-cum-sale outlet to support local agricultural and dairy products.

Certificates, including Fisheries Kisan Credit Cards, will be distributed to beneficiaries from various Northeastern states. The ministry will also recognise achievements in the sector by presenting awards to outstanding fisheries startups and fisheries cooperatives.

Officials said Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh is expected to interact directly with beneficiaries during the programme to better understand the challenges faced by fish farmers, dairy producers, and livestock owners in the region.

The project is expected to improve India's ability to handle international cargo traffic while increasing its strategic presence in the Andaman sea and Southeast Asia

'Great Nicobar Project: India's strategic frontier in the Indian Ocean'

NEW DELHI

The Great Nicobar Project, currently under development, is being viewed as one of India's most significant strategic and economic initiatives in recent decades.

The ambitious Great Nicobar Project is designed to establish a large transshipment port and related infrastructure near the East-West international shipping corridor, a route that carries a major share of global maritime trade. Located in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the project is expected to improve India's ability to handle international cargo traffic while increasing its strategic presence in the Andaman Sea and

Southeast Asia.

According to assessments highlighted in international reports, the port's location provides a major geographical advantage. The proposed facility lies only around 40 nautical miles from the main global shipping route connecting Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. In addition, the area offers a natural water depth of more than 20 metres, making it suitable for large cargo vessels and container ships.

Officials and strategic experts believe the project could significantly reduce India's dependence on foreign ports such as Colombo in Sri Lanka, Singapore, and Port Klang in Malaysia for cargo trans-

shipment. At present, a substantial portion of Indian cargo is routed through these foreign ports before reaching international markets, increasing both costs and strategic vulnerability.

The project also carries major geopolitical importance because of its proximity to the Strait of Malacca, one of the world's most critical maritime chokepoints. The waterway handles a significant share of global trade and is especially important for China's energy imports and international commerce.

An article published in the South China Morning Post highlighted the strategic implications of the project, particularly in relation to what

analysts often describe as China's Malacca dilemma. The term refers to Beijing's concern that a large portion of its crude oil imports and maritime trade passes through a narrow sea passage that could become vulnerable during geopolitical tensions or conflict.

Former Indian Army officer and military diplomat Brigadier Sanjay Iyer described the Great Nicobar Project as one of India's most consequential strategic investments in decades. He stated that the initiative would provide India with a stronger and more continuous presence in the eastern Indian Ocean region while improving monitoring capabilities over maritime movement.

Government expands verification of CNG, LNG, Hydrogen dispensers

NEW DELHI

In a bid to improve efficiency and support the growing adoption of cleaner fuels across the country, the government on Sunday said it has amended the Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2013, to further strengthen India's legal metrology ecosystem and expand the country's verification infrastructure for weights and measures.

A key feature of the amendment is the expansion of the scope of government-approved test centres (GATCs) to include verification and re-verification of additional fuel dispensing systems. The move is expected

to enhance the availability of verification services.

The amendments empower state governments to notify additional categories of weights and measures for verification through GATCs under their respective Rules.

The verification fee for petrol and diesel dispensers has been fixed at Rs 5,000 per nozzle, while the fee for CNG, LPG, LNG and Hydrogen dispensers has been fixed at Rs 10,000 per nozzle.

Under the amended rules, five categories of dispensing systems have been added to the list of instruments that can be verified by GATCs: Petrol/Diesel Dispensers; CNG Dispensers; LPG Dispensers; LNG Dispensers; and Hydrogen Dispensers.

With the inclusion of these instruments, GATCs can now undertake verification and re-verification of a total of 23 categories of weights and measures under the Legal Metrology framework, said the Department of Consumer Affairs in a statement.

GATCs are approved facilities with the required infrastructure and technical expertise to undertake verification and re-verification of specified weights and measures under the Legal Metrology Act and Rules.

By involving qualified private laboratories and industries, the GATC framework helps expand the country's verification capacity and improve access to verification services.

'No fuel shortage in country, PSU oil firms managing supply smoothly'

NEW DELHI

Amid concerns over fuel availability in some areas, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Marketing Director Sukhmal Kumar Jain on Sunday said there is no shortage of petrol or diesel in the country, adding that public sector oil marketing companies are fully managing fuel consumption and supply.

Speaking exclusive to IANS, Jain said that public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) operate

around 85,000 retail outlets out of the nearly one lakh fuel stations across the country, ensuring steady fuel availability.

I don't think there is any shortage because as far as the consumption part is concerned, it is being fully managed by the public sector oil marketing companies, he said.

At least I can say that since they hold the larger share out of 1 lakh-odd retail outlets, around 85,000 are from public sector oil mar-

keting companies, he added.

So stray cases may be there due to various other reasons, but otherwise there is no shortage, whatever I understand in this area, Jain told IANS.

Commenting on the current market situation, Jain said global crude oil prices and other associated costs remain highly volatile.

He noted that shipping costs, insurance expenses, and fluctuations in exchange rates have significantly impacted oil companies.

SIKKIM'S IDENTITY-ASPIRATIONS

PM shares Scindia's article celebrating Sikkim's heritage

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday shared an article written by Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia as Sikkim marked its 51st year of statehood. In the article, Scindia reflected on the cultural, spiritual, and natural significance of Khangchendzonga, describing it as the protector of Sikkim's land, memory, and consciousness.

Sharing his thoughts on social media platform X, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the article beautifully cap-

tured the enduring importance of Khangchendzonga in shaping Sikkim's identity and aspirations. He noted that the symbolism of the mountain's five treasures continues to inspire the state's path toward inclusive development and progress.

In his article, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia described Khangchendzonga as more than just a Himalayan mountain massif. He wrote that the towering peaks, often wrapped in clouds, snow, and traditional Lungta prayer flags, hold deep spiritual and

cultural significance for the people of Sikkim. Nearly one-fourth of the state's land falls within the Khangchendzonga National Park, underlining its ecological importance as well.

Scindia referred to the long-standing belief among indigenous communities that Khangchendzonga serves as a sacred civilisational force protecting the land and collective memory of Sikkim. He cited the interpretation of the revered Lama Lhatsun Chenpo, who poetically described the five summits of the mountain as the Five Treasures of

the Eternal Snow. According to the legend, each peak symbolizes a treasure, including gold, silver, gems, grains, and holy scriptures.

The minister said his recent visit to Sikkim during the statehood celebrations gave renewed meaning to this ancient lore. He explained that the first treasure, gold, represents the people of Sikkim and their social harmony. Scindia praised the unity among the Lepcha, Bhutia, and Nepali communities, saying the state demonstrates how lasting development is

built upon strong and confident communities.

He further described the second treasure, silver, as symbolizing Sikkim's extraordinary natural beauty and biodiversity. He recalled witnessing the Teesta and Rangeet rivers flowing through dense forests and mist-covered landscapes, while tea gardens and cherry trees added to the scenic richness of the region.

According to Scindia, the third treasure, gems, reflects Sikkim's spiritual and cultural wealth. He highlighted the state's monasteries, the Bud-

dha Park at Ravangla, and the Bhaleydhunga skywalk as symbols of its deep-rooted heritage. He also noted the sacred association of the land with Guru Padmasambhava, emphasizing that Sikkim has preserved a rare sense of peace and spirituality in a rapidly changing world.

The article presents Sikkim as a state where tradition and modern aspirations exist side by side, offering a model of balanced development rooted in cultural pride, environmental conservation, and social unity.

Sachin's emotional note praises Arjun's patience after LSG Debut

MUMBAI

Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar expressed pride in his son Arjun Tendulkar after the youngster made a promising debut for Lucknow Super Giants in their final league-stage match of the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) season.

Taking to Instagram after Lucknow's seven-wicket defeat against Punjab Kings, Sachin penned an emotional message highlighting Arjun's patience, dedication and determination during a season in which he had to wait until the final game to earn an opportunity.

"Well done, Arjun. Proud of the way you've carried yourself through this season, always believing in your ability, staying patient, working hard quietly, and remaining positive despite having to wait for your opportunity till the very last

match," Sachin wrote.

The batting great also emphasised the importance of perseverance in cricket, noting that the sport tests a player's temperament as much as talent.

"Cricket tests patience as much as skill, and you handled both beautifully today. Keep your feet on the ground, and continue being in love with the game like you always have. Love you always," he added.

Arjun, 26, delivered a respectable performance with the ball on his IPL debut for Lucknow. Introduced by captain Rishabh Pant immediately after the powerplay, the left-arm pacer bowled four overs and returned figures of 1 for 36.

He nearly struck in his opening over when Pant was unable to hold on to a difficult chance offered by opener Prabhshimran Singh. However,

Arjun eventually got his reward in the 15th over, trapping Prabhshimran leg-before-wicket with a well-executed yorker.

Arjun bowled the seventh, ninth, 15th and 17th overs,

a solid impression, earning praise from fans and, most importantly, from one of cricket's greatest-ever players his father.

Cricket legend applauds son Arjun's perseverance, composure and promising IPL debut.

showing control and composure despite the pressure surrounding his debut. Having previously represented Mumbai Indians, he has often been under intense scrutiny because of his famous surname.

Reports suggest some members of the Lucknow support staff had been keen to give Arjun an opportunity earlier in the season. Although that chance came only in the team's final match, the all-rounder made



Sooryavanshi's fielding under no cloud, says Royals coach Penney

MUMBAI

Rajasthan Royals assistant coach Trevor Penney has firmly dismissed speculation surrounding the fielding abilities of teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, clarifying that the youngster's role as an Impact Substitute has been a tactical decision rather than a reflection of any weakness in the field.

The 15-year-old prodigy, who recently earned a place in the India A cricket team squad for the upcoming tour of Sri Lanka, has mostly featured as a batting specialist for Rajasthan Royals during the ongoing IPL season. His limited appearances on the field had led to questions from observers about his athleticism and fielding standards. Addressing those

concerns ahead of Rajasthan's crucial league fixture, Penney made it clear that Sooryavanshi is a capable and accomplished fielder.

"He is a very good fielder. He has got great hands. He moves well. He dives. He anticipates. He has got all that," Penney said.

The former India fielding coach explained that the Royals management has carefully managed the teenager's workload throughout the tournament, preferring to keep him physically and mentally fresh for his primary responsibility at the top of the batting order.

According to Penney, using Sooryavanshi as an Impact Substitute has often given the team a fresher batter during challenging run chases and crucial phases of matches. "Sometimes with him opening the batting, him go-

ing in the second innings being fresh, it's worked for us," Penney noted. "There is no specific reason why he is a bad fielder or we are not playing him in the field. It's nothing to do with that."

He added that team combinations and match situations have occasionally required the presence of more experienced fielders, but stressed that the decision has always been strategic rather than performance-related.

Penney also praised the youngster's cricketing intelligence and maturity beyond his years. Recalling a recent innings, he highlighted Sooryavanshi's ability to assess situations rather than relying solely on aggressive stroke play.

"You saw in the last game he had 10 off 11 balls and he was so determined to win that game," Penney said.



Stayed true to our core values, says Nayar as KKR stages fightback

KOLKATA

Kolkata Knight Riders head coach Abhishek Nayar has credited the team's unwavering belief in its philosophy and players for its late resurgence in IPL 2026, saying that sticking to core values helped the defending champions remain competitive despite a difficult phase during the season.

Nayar said the management resisted the temptation to make drastic changes when results were not going their way and instead focused on maintaining trust within the group.

"If you look at the messaging during the struggling phase and now, it has not changed much. The trust in the players and the way we view them remain the same," Nayar said.

"It was important for us to stay true to our core values as a team and as individuals," he added.

Kolkata endured a mixed campaign in which inconsistent performances threatened to derail its playoff hopes. However, the team managed to recover in the latter half of the tournament, keeping itself in contention through improved performances and a more settled approach.



Nayar emphasised that the turnaround was not the result of any dramatic shift in strategy but rather the product of patience and confidence in the squad's abilities. According to him, maintaining composure during challenging periods was crucial in helping players perform freely and regain momentum. On the other side, Delhi Capitals batting coach Ian Bell admitted that inconsistency had been the defining feature of his team's disappointing IPL campaign.

Bell pointed to Delhi's wildly contrasting performances as evidence of a side that often struggled to sustain momentum. "We have shown this season that we can score 264 against Punjab Kings and then follow that up by getting bowled out for 75 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru," Bell said.

He also highlighted Delhi's

inability to defend a massive total of 264 runs, suggesting that the team frequently failed to capitalise on favourable situations.

"There have been times when we have been brilliant and others when we simply haven't been good enough," Bell remarked.

Reflecting on missed opportunities, Bell said a few results could have dramatically altered Delhi's fortunes in the playoff race.

"If we turn those results around and, if we win tomorrow, suddenly we are sitting on 18 points and talking about a top-two finish. At times, we have probably been guilty of not closing games out," he said.

The comments from both camps underline how consistency and belief often prove decisive in a long and demanding IPL season.

Former Karnataka cricketer S.L. Akshay passes away: KSCA mourns loss

CH NEWS, Bengaluru

The President and Managing Committee of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) have expressed profound grief and deep sorrow over the untimely demise of former Karnataka cricketer S.L. Akshay.

Akshay represented Karnataka with distinction at the first-class level and continued his association with the game even after his playing career. He served as a junior-level coach and played a significant role in mentoring and shaping young cricketers across the state.

KSCA stated that his dedication to cricket, calm demeanour and selfless contribution to nurturing emerging talent earned him immense respect within the cricketing fraternity.

Bumrah carried niggle into IPL, reveals Jayawardene after MI struggles

MUMBAI

Mumbai Indians head coach Mahela Jayawardene has revealed that pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah entered IPL 2026 carrying a niggle from the T20 World Cup, while also admitting that the five-time champions failed to come together as a unit during a disappointing season.

Jayawardene reflected on a season marked by inconsistency, missed opportunities and an inability to build momentum despite occasional flashes of brilliance.

The former Sri Lanka captain said the team had several honest discussions throughout the tournament after a poor run of results dented confidence within the squad.

"Once we lost a few games and some confidence, we had some really good conversations within the group," Jay-

awardene said.

"At different stages of the competition, we sat down and discussed what we needed to do. We would win a game but then repeat the same mistakes and lose again."

Mumbai once again found itself battling near the bottom of the table rather than challenging for a playoff spot. Jayawardene acknowledged that several opponents had simply performed better and that his side often failed to compete at the required level.

"In some matches, we weren't even able to compete. Honest conversations have happened within the group, but we haven't been

able to galvanise and get across the line. It's something for us to reflect on post-season," he said.

Jayawardene also shed light on Bumrah's subdued performances during the early stages of the tournament.

According to the coach, the star fast bowler was still recovering from a lingering issue that he had managed throughout the T20 World Cup.

"Bumrah had a niggle which he played with through the World Cup. We gave him adequate rest before the IPL, but the first four or five games were about gradually building him up. You could see that the pace had dropped a little," he explained.



Shot selection, not maturity, key to success, says Ishan Kishan

HYDERABAD

Sunrisers Hyderabad batter Ishan Kishan believes intelligent shot selection rather than maturity has been the biggest factor behind his impressive IPL 2026 campaign, after another match-winning knock helped his side register a commanding victory over Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

Kishan struck a fluent 79 off 46 balls, laced with eight fours and three sixes, as Sunrisers Hyderabad piled up a daunting 255 for four at the Rajiv Gand-

hi International Stadium. The hosts then restricted RCB to 200 for four to secure a comprehensive 55-run win and finish third in the league standings.

The innings also saw Kishan cross the 500-run mark for the season, underlining his consistency at the top of the order.

The India wicketkeeper-batter said he has deliberately simplified his approach this season.

"Just happy about it, taking one match at a time, not making it complicated for myself.

It's just about watching the ball and playing your game," Kishan said.

While many have attributed his success to growing maturity, the left-hander insisted that understanding situations and selecting the right options have made the real difference.

"More than maturity, it's about shot selection. You should know when to play which shot and who to target. I'm just trying to take one ball at a time, know the situation, understand the pitch and play my shots," he explained.

Three national records fall as Gurindervir, Vishal and Tejaswin shine



RANCHI

Indian athletics witnessed a landmark day at the National Athletics Federation Cup as three national records tumbled in the men's events, with sprinter Gurindervir Singh, quarter-miler Vishal T K and decathlete Tejaswin Shankar producing extraordinary performances.

The trio etched their names into the record books with stunning displays that highlighted the growing depth and quality of Indian track and field. While Gurindervir and Tejaswin also secured qualification for the upcoming Commonwealth Games, Vishal became the first Indian ever to break the 45-second barrier in the men's 400 metres.

Gurindervir, representing Reliance, clocked a sensational 10.09 seconds in the men's 100m final, bettering the previous national record of 10.15 seconds set just a day earlier by Animesh Kujur. The 25-year-old from Punjab not only qualified for the Commonwealth Games by surpassing the Athletics Federation of India's qualifying mark of 10.16 seconds but also became the second-fastest Asian sprinter this season, trailing only Japan's Fukuto Komuro, who has clocked 10.08 seconds.

GAMBHIR MAY HAVE FINAL SAY ON SURYAKUMAR'S FUTURE AS T20 CAPTAIN

NEW DELHI

India's T20 captaincy debate appears set to hinge on the views of head coach Gautam Gambhir, with a senior BCCI source indicating that the national selectors are increasingly uncertain about Suryakumar Yadav retaining his place in the side purely as a batter.

According to the source, the selection committee has serious concerns over Suryakumar's prolonged slump in form and believes the time may be approaching to look beyond the current T20 skipper. However, Gambhir's strong relationship with the Mumbai batter and his influence within the team set-up could prove decisive when the final decision is made.

Suryakumar, one of the most innovative T20 batters of his generation, has endured a difficult run over the past year. The selectors had hoped the IPL would help him rediscover the form that saw him score more than 700 runs in the previous season. Instead, his struggles continued.

The 35-year-old managed only 210 runs in 12 IPL innings this season, averaging below 18 despite maintaining a strike rate of 148. Those numbers have raised questions about his place in the national team, particularly with India already planning for future tournaments, including the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

"Initially the selectors thought that IPL would help Suryakumar regain form. But there hasn't been any

technical course correction in his game," the source said.

The source further suggested that selectors believe a player should first justify his selection as a batter before being considered for leadership responsibilities.

"If someone can't earn his place as a batter, how can he be a leader?" the source remarked, adding that chief selector Ajit Agarkar and Gambhir would need to be aligned on any major decision.

Potential successors are already being discussed. Shreyas Iyer, Shubman Gill and Tilak Varma are among the names being considered, while emerging talents such as Vaibhav Sooryavanshi are viewed as part of India's long-term plans.

Gill remains a strong contender after another productive IPL season, while Tilak's appointment as captain for the India A tri-series is being seen as an opportunity to assess his leadership credentials.

For now, Suryakumar's future remains uncertain.



"Raayan Amruth C - World records by a three-year-old little boy High Range Book of World Records and India Records - 'World Records'



Raayan Amruth C, son of Chethan Amruth R.T. and Madhushree T.R., residents of Tumakuru, Karnataka, has created two world records at a very young age, making the whole world turn and take notice. At an extremely young age, he very easily identified and named 525 subjects, objects, pictures, books, etc. in a very short time. This achievement was accomplished under the guidance of Ambika C, a multiple world record achiever and Chief coordinator.